

# RECREATION

*Formerly* THE PLAYGROUND

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— November 1933 —

## Home-Made Music

By Emanuel Elston

## The Uses of Leisure

By Edwin R. Embree

## Play and Keep Mentally Well

By H. Edmund Bullis

## What Will We Do With Our Time?

By John H. Finley

## Philadelphia Plans a Merry Christmas

By Charles H. English

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# RECREATION

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## Is Community Recreation a Frill?

**T**O THE CHILD play is a necessity. Reluctantly the child leaves his play even for his meals. Marbles, tops, fish hooks, are collected —also bright colored objects. But above all else, activity — play — is the thing.

In so far as men and women remain as alive as little children, as normal as little children, in so far as they keep from growing old, —activity, recreation, creative arts, are fostered. To the individual grown old, to the civilization grown old, fear comes and the main idea becomes possession, not activity.

Where age has come on, where the spirit of childhood has departed, then people do not expect to live every day. Living is then to be deferred to a later Golden Age—when the individual has retired and is so old and decrepit that he cannot play. Then living for the community as a whole is to be deferred until the community "has torn down all its barns and built bigger ones," has completed its skyscrapers, its concrete roads, its sewers, its hospitals, its beautifully laid-out cemeteries; until public debts have been paid off, until the waterfronts, priceless for living, have been all used up for factories and docks.

Live young communities, like live young normal individuals, provide for activity, for play and recreation for their citizens, now, in the present. Read the advertisements of live cities. Parks, recreation centers, playgrounds, swimming pools, bathing beaches, art galleries, libraries, schools—are all featured, because the community is alive and is interested in securing live people.

Even in depression times some means are found to keep the place attractive to children and to those who still remember their childhood.

Community recreation is a frill—only in a dead community.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

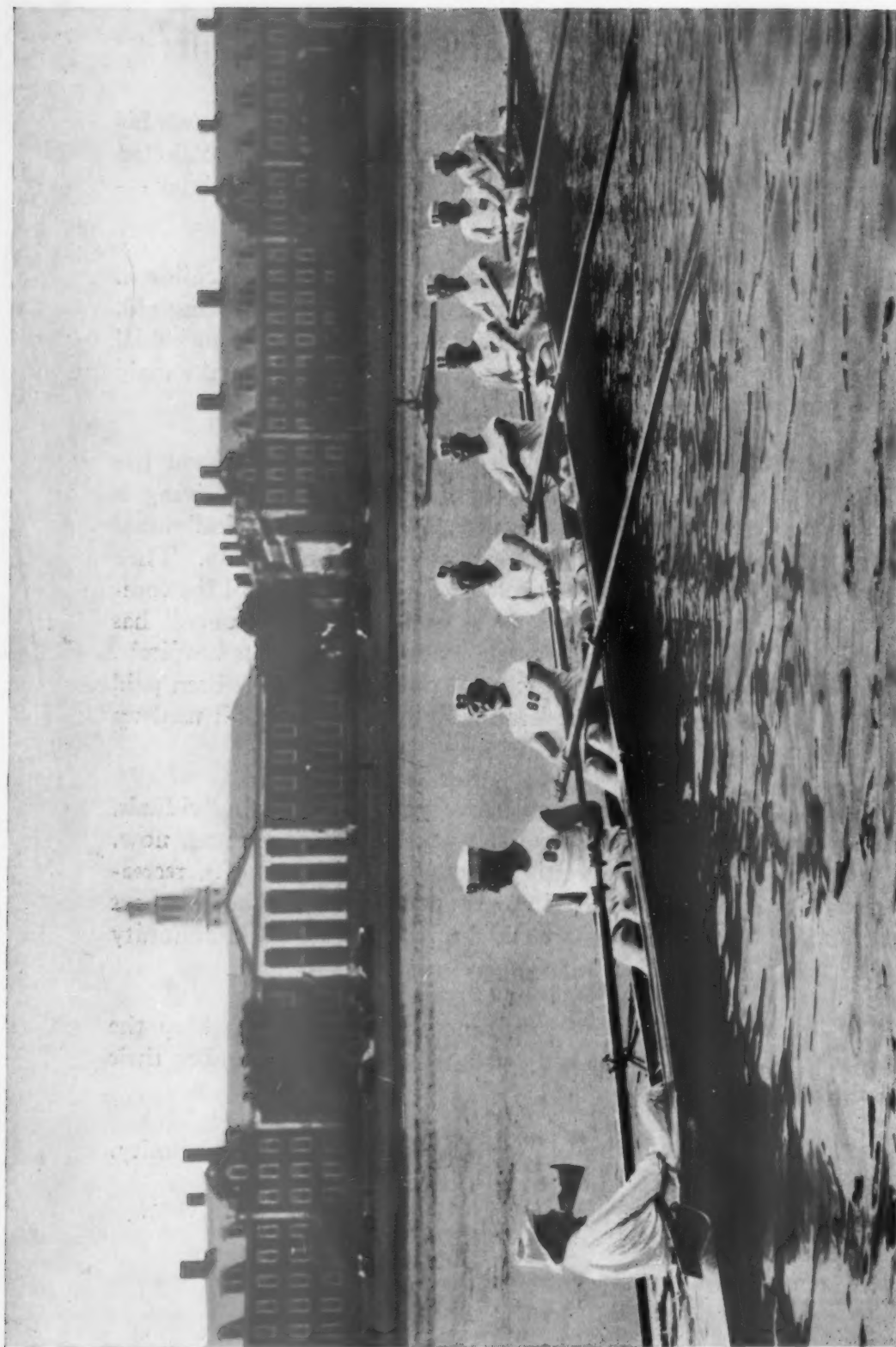
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November, 1933

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*Courtesy Keystone*

At the fiftieth reunion of the class of 1883 of Harvard University, the class crew sprinted up the Charles River and down again as many relatives and friends along the river bank cheered enthusiastically. This picture, showing the crew as it rowed, will be of special interest to readers of **RECREATION** as

Joseph Lee, President of the National Recreation Association, is to be seen rowing in Number 6 seat. Mr. Lee's athletic prowess was not limited to rowing. He was a member of his Freshman football eleven, and in his Junior year won the middleweight boxing championship.



# Philadelphia Plans a Merry Christmas

By CHARLES H. ENGLISH  
Executive Secretary  
Playgrounds Association  
Philadelphia, Pa.

**T**HE 1932 CHRISTMAS toy shower is over. Headquarters at 2100 Chestnut Street was formally closed for the year yesterday. Fifty thousand, two hundred and eighty toys, including 2,380 dolls, were sent out by the Playgrounds Association of Philadelphia to provide a toy for every needy child at Christmas. The toys have been sent to 132 child-caring agencies, such as orphanages, hospitals, day nurseries, settlement houses and recreation centers throughout the city."

This statement in the *Evening Ledger* for December 24th announced the result of a very strenuous month of activity for a host of volunteers and directors of the Playgrounds Association.

Have you any idea what it means to organize forces to collect, recondition and deliver over 50,000 toys "good as new" to 132 agencies scattered over an area as large as Philadelphia? It is a sizeable job and requires efficient organization to get satisfactory results. Our experience, covering four years, has been most valuable to us. We are glad to pass along to others information regarding the methods used in this worthwhile undertaking.

## Preliminary Organization

Various committees should be appointed as early as the first of October because actual work must begin immediately after Thanksgiving when thoughts are turned toward Christmas. In our case the women directors of the association take the entire responsibility for directing this project. Experience teaches that it is best to have co-chairmen of each department. This divided responsi-



For weeks before Christmas many volunteers are busily at work applying paint and glue.

bility makes it possible to have a chairman always on duty and gives each chairman an alternate day off.

Before accepting a chairmanship each individual promises to assume leadership on alternate days and to get her Christmas shopping done before December first. In other words, it is a real, steady task she must assume. The general chairman carries a heavy burden and accepts the position with no misunderstanding as to its requirements.

**Departments.** The following departments function:

Headquarters painting and repair; doll department; sorting department; packing and shipping department; volunteer department.

This organization requires a chairman and two co-chairmen for each of the five departments, or a total of twelve executives. Each department is responsible for its own committee members and the development of its functions. In the preliminary setup these twelve act as an executive committee which arranges for the following organization in advance of December first.

**Cooperation of the Press.** In Philadelphia the *Evening Ledger* assigned two reporters for the entire period of operation who wrote a daily account of the various activities augmented liberally with photographs. In addition, the *Ledger* gave

us the use of its fleet of trucks to collect and distribute the toys, and printed posters that were sent to the schools announcing the shower and pick-up dates. In order to secure this service from the *Ledger* the committee promised to ask only that paper to cooperate with it. During our four years of experience not once did the *Ledger* take credit for its share in the work. This agreement was worked out in the beginning at the insistence of the committee. We admit such an arrangement is not always possible elsewhere but it is worth the effort. The *Ledger* gained tremendous "good will" from its reading public. Without the paper's aid it is doubtful that the shower could be such a large-scale success as it has become.

**Cooperation of School Authorities.** The major source of supply of discarded toys is the toy showers held in the schools on scheduled days. The superintendent of public schools, superintendent of parochial schools and all the headmasters of private schools have given enthusiastic support to the movement. We have found the elementary and junior high schools the best field for collections. Senior high schools through their service clubs usually desire to carry on their own work of reconditioning toys. The executives of the school systems have worked out a collection schedule according to districts and have sent to the principals a message granting authority to engage in this project. Instructions are issued as to assembly appeals and directions given to have the toys wrapped securely and placed in cartons for safe cartage. Attractive posters are sent to be placed upon bulletin boards, with the Playgrounds Association name mentioned as the organization in charge. The schedules of pick-ups are then forwarded in triplicate to the *Ledger* for its truck drivers. The principals are instructed to telephone the Playgrounds Association if they have more than one

truck load so that additional orders for truck service can be arranged.

**Preparation of Lists.** A list of all child-caring agencies is prepared for the general committee which sends a letter to the executives in charge telling them of our plans. Included in the letter is a questionnaire and requisition for toys. Each agency is requested to give us the number of boys and of girls in each of the following age groups: 3-6; 6-9; 9-12. They are also asked if they can utilize large toys such as rocking horses, play houses, bicycles and large mechanical toys, to be used at the institution by all children playing at the center. The following important statement is made: "This is a large cooperative undertaking. You expect us to supply you with toys, we expect you to supply us with volunteers. Please indicate the number and the dates when these volunteers will appear at headquarters for work. Volunteers will supply their own smocks, gloves, etc. Those who supply regular volunteers will be given preference in filling orders." In almost every case the agency is glad to send volunteers. Some special cases as hospitals find it difficult. We ask not only for members of staff but more especially for board members, and we receive a fairly good response.

**Toy Shower Headquarters.** Make a survey of vacant store buildings. If possible secure such a building in the heart of the shopping district. The space for our operation required a minimum of



In another department a corps of workers is equally busy repairing and dressing the hundreds of dolls contributed.

10,000 square feet. The advantage of a central place as a means of attracting attention is obvious. Keep in mind the requirements of such a building:

- (a) Good window space
- (b) Minor repairs and painting
- (c) Sorting and packing
- (d) Doll department and fumigation
- (e) Back entrance on street for loading and unloading

We have been able to secure the use of such buildings without cost, including light, heat and janitor service. In making up membership of your committee it is well to keep in mind the selection of a person whose connections can secure such buildings.

**The Receiving, Sorting and Repair Department.** Where nearly 150,000 toys are collected, as in our case, it becomes necessary to arrange for a major receiving, sorting and repair department in a location other than headquarters. For the past two years the Shelter for Homeless Men has been used for this purpose. Here sixty men daily have done the major job just described. If the shelter were not in operation we should turn to one of the missions or Salvation Army for the men, using some factory space for operations. In many cases Boy and Girl Scouts could be asked to co-operate.

**The Indispensable Mechanic.** The next step is to secure an all-around mechanic. We had one assigned to headquarters and one at the Shelter. These men took charge of all mechanical details including the direction of those volunteers engaged in mechanical work. These were the only two employed persons in the entire organization. We had many mechanically trained volunteers, one fifteen years in the business of making toys.

**Donations.** The following donations should be requested:

Disinfectants

Cartons (Ask department stores to send in November all sizes of cartons, chiefly large ones, to be used in packing toys for shipments. They will gladly donate in November but as Christmas approaches they will need them for their own use. Store them away in "knock-down" form.)

Wrapping paper, string, piles of old newspapers

A valuable outgrowth of the Christmas Shower is a lending doll library. More than 200 dolls left over from the 1932 Shower were put into circulation last summer on three playgrounds. No doll is dressed, the assumption being that the borrower will remedy this lack! On Friday ("Doll's Day") a child registers for a doll. If on the next Friday she shows she has taken good care of her doll, dressed it, or tried to, and kept it in good condition, she may have a week's renewal. This process may go on until the end of the season when she will have purchased the doll by her care of it. Dolls not well cared for must be returned to the library where they are fumigated and put back into circulation.

Inner tubes to be used to "string" arms and legs of dolls. (Strips of this rubber save buying very expensive rubber cord.)

Gallons of quick drying enamel paint and brushes

Tools suitable for repair work

Chairs and tables from churches, lodges or undertakers

Lumber for shelving and work tables

For the doll department the following supplies are necessary:

Special oil paint for faces, arms and legs

Special brushes

A plentiful supply of waste rags

Electric sewing machines

Cleaning material for doll faces

Remnants of material for dresses

Old light-colored silk and rayon underwear for doll stockings

Practically everything listed we secured as donations.

Arrange at the end of the season to store all donated material that can be used again. Such items as chairs and sewing machines are, of course, borrowed only for the month. If the donor cannot deliver then we ask the *Ledger* trucks to do the work.

After the first year the doll department realized how difficult it was to wash and repair the clothes usually on the dolls when they are received so that they would be attractive to the children who received them from us at Christmas. So during the spring, summer and fall hundreds of women received from the doll committee patterns cut from ordinary wrapping paper of three different sizes of romper dresses with the suggestion that these dresses be made up in advance of the opening of the doll department. These dresses are made from remnants of new dress material. The most popular material is that carrying figures of animals, etc. Individual tastes are permitted as long as they conform to size. Over 1,800 new dresses were on hand at the opening of the doll department for the season of 1932. Volunteers who did the work in the summer of 1932 at resorts or during odd moments tell us it was "great fun."



During the summer of 1933 the doll committee sent out bloomer dress patterns to over 200 women. Return cards received in the summer indicate that 1,500 dresses are now being made. This wise planning in advance on the part of Mrs. Frank A. Myers, the chairman, makes it possible to keep well ahead of the game during the rush season in December. This year students from two local art schools have promised to paint faces.

**Volunteers.** If you are centrally located, through the window display and newspaper accounts you will find that many people will drop in for an hour between shopping excursions. We always have work to be done in our painting department for those who like to brighten up the toys. The doll department is always glad to have as many as will come. Not all women "just love to work with dolls." If this is the case they are given other things to do. On the other hand, when a woman does enjoy working with dolls she is an ardent worker. Some of them work daily, long hours and for a full month. The chairman often has to set goals to be reached because these workers become so enthralled that they spend too much time on one doll. One suspects that many elderly women welcome the opportunity to play with dolls again with a perfect alibi! There is no

difficulty in getting a full quota of workers in this department.

We limit the age of volunteers to over eighteen years. Too many opportunities are offered for a joyous good time with temptations to explore prevent serious work by youngsters. Daily accounts in the *Ledger* of those who are giving their services help to bring in others. Indeed one is often surprised to learn in the daily papers the types of workers to be found in various departments. There are men and women of social standing, individuals of interesting accomplishments, and others desirous of giving of themselves to help make unfortunates happy. It is an interesting cross-section of a great city's people.

For a period of two weeks a radio broadcast is made, the different chairmen serving as speakers. Last year a plan to have a broadcast at headquarters to tell what was going on was worked out.

The final preliminary to actual operation is the work of the mechanics in preparing headquarters and the major repairing departments for proper use. Usually it takes from a week to ten days. Shelves, many deep ones, are required to hold the toys. Low tables to hold the cartons for sorting and packing are built at the right height (18 inches) to save the worker's back. Tables are arranged for workers, work benches for mechanics.



Courtesy Extension Department, Milwaukee Public Schools



The fumigation room must be made air tight. If headquarters is in one large room, the rear of the room may be partitioned off and sealed up. Seals at the doors and windows are broken after each operation.

Signs are put up in windows. We had an artist prepare a frieze on paper, the subject being "The March of the Toys." This, put along the walls of headquarters, makes a splendid motif for the project.

With these preliminaries completed, you are now ready for the first day of collections.

### At the Shelter

While the papers have announced the opening of the toy shower and the school children have made their donations in District 1, there is little activity at headquarters downtown. The committee has made all arrangements and is waiting for the men at the Shelter to send down the first load. At the Shelter load after load is arriving. Men begin immediately to sort in boxes and bins in the following divisions: dolls, small iron toys, large iron toys, small wooden, large wooden, books, games, musical toys, toys beyond repair and new toys

that need no attention. Parts are saved from toys so badly broken that they cannot be repaired to fix up others of similar make. Almost immediately the repair and paint crews are at work. Men assigned to games are inspecting them to see that each is complete. In less than an hour sixty men are presenting a scene that is often pictured of Santa's Work Shop, and these homeless men chosen from the ranks at the Shelter for their abilities love this opportunity to work for such a cause. The "job master" informs us they will fight for the assignment. He said one day: "This is a great thing for us. Before and during the holiday when the world takes on a happy and merry mood, we find it very difficult to keep our men from becoming more unhappy than they are. This is a fine outlet."

The following morning loads of toys are sent down to headquarters. Several boxes of small toys that are repaired but not painted are also sent down to give volunteer workers at headquarters something to work on. From the second day of operation headquarters downtown receives daily loads of toys from the Shelter up to December 23rd.

### At Headquarters

What is happening at headquarters?

The first load and all succeeding loads of toys, as well as toys brought into headquarters by individuals, are piled up in the fumigation room. No one except the mechanic at headquarters handles toys until they are fumigated. The candles are set each night and the toys are removed

to sorting space the next morning. We cannot emphasize too strongly the necessity of proper fumigation. To neglect this is to run counter to all general community health rules, and those who do not follow the regulations as required by the health authorities should be asked not to engage in this type of community project. General regulations in our city, at least, call for a two ounce candle per 1,000

cubic feet. To be on the safe side last year we used four two ounce candles per 1,000 cubic feet per fumigation per night. We were perhaps extravagant, but the donor of the candles asked us to do so. On several occasions we publish in the *Ledger* the fact that all toys are properly fumigated. No one in all the four years during which nearly 200,000 toys have been sent out has questioned the committee as to the health factor in using discarded toys. Because of published statements regarding our cautions we have doubtless forestalled any public criticism.

### Santa in Action

In our large store window Santa works away all day long painting toys. He has a great time talking in sign language with the hundreds of



Courtesy Houston, Texas, Department of Recreation

### A Merry, Merry Christmas!

children who stop to see him. In the window space are grouped all kinds of toys. One space is devoted to a "before and after," showing two toys of the same make, one "fixed up," the other a pretty bad wreck. There are signs telling the public that we want their discarded toys and that we need volunteers. One very important sign reads: "Toys are distributed to child-caring agencies—*no toys are given to individuals.*" We had to make that rule. It is heart-breaking to be forced to turn down worthy cases, but if we let down the bars we should be in trouble at once and the police would be required to keep order in lines of those who would come for the toys. We should be guilty, too, of disorganizing the work of existing agencies and should have no way of checking upon duplications. It is often said to such inquiries: "We are in the wholesale business and not retail." Letters begin to follow after the daily stories appear in the *Ledger*. These are promptly mailed to the Christmas Exchange where they are cleared to different agencies.

#### The Sorting Committee Starts Work

Now the committee on sorting can begin its work. Over shelves you will find such signs as: "Small children up to 6 years." "Boys 9 to 12, active games," "Girls 6 to 9, inactive games." Active, inactive and educational (books, etc.) are the general classifications. The sorting committee is especially trained. It must make the right classification even though it has actually two or three thousand different types of toys to sort. After days of classification the work is done more or less mechanically. Books are sorted out according to age capacities. This committee stays on the job until all the toys of that day's shipment have been properly placed.

#### The Distribution Committee Is On the Job!

The following day the committee on deliveries or packing is on hand. Here again trained workers are needed. From the agency requisitions an order slip is made. These requests are for a definite number of children of certain ages and sex whom the committee must have in mind when packing. Then there are other matters to be considered—the types of institutions, whether hospital, feeble-minded, orphan homes. Toys sent to an orphanage must be selected so that no one child will receive a toy "better, bigger than mine." What kind of toys would you send to the feeble-

minded? Racial characteristics are also a factor. This committee has a vital task.

Packing starts on the fourth or fifth day of operation, and shipping to the agencies begins not later than the sixth of December. These two important committees work on alternate days until toward the final rush when they merge into one hurried, almost frantic, single committee! Meanwhile each day witnesses volunteers at work painting toys at long tables, having a grand time dabbing on bright colors. As the days pass an ever increasing number of individuals come in the front door leaving bundles of toys and donations of cash. There they meet a fine type of reporter from the *Ledger* who not only thanks them for their donation but secures their names and addresses which appear in the daily story the next day. Toys received at the door are repaired and painted (after fumigation) at headquarters.

#### The Doll Department At Work

And now we visit another beehive—the doll department. If possible this department should have a room by itself for two reasons: (1) It needs a great deal of space; (2) It must provide opportunity for the people who cannot work with paint because of its effect on them.

Activities in the doll department are divided into the following divisions:

*Sorting*, where clothes are removed and the doll is classified

*Cleaning*, where faces, legs and arms are cleaned and wigs removed for hygienic reasons

*Repair*, where holes in heads are filled with plastic wood, legs and arms restrung

*Painting*, where a group of artists paint faces and paint on hair, etc.

*Sewing*, where dresses and stockings are made  
*Dressing and packing* division

This department never receives enough dolls to fill the demands and its work is never finished. At the close of the season useful parts, dress material and dolls are stored away until the committee is again called into action. Artists are recruited from art schools and individuals who have the special skill required in this work are called upon. To send out over 2,500 dolls as good as new is a tremendous task.

#### Important Factors

One of the reasons why this undertaking moves along like a well-running machine is because of the work of the volunteer committee. If each of

the 132 agencies agreed to send an average of from eight to ten volunteers, it would mean a total of from 800 to 1,000 workers during the month of December. To check up daily on those who appear for work, to call agencies who are delinquent and to build up the numbers who will be on hand during the final rush, the week preceding Christmas, the very week when it is most difficult to secure volunteers, is the man-sized job of this committee.

The *Ledger* stories occasionally urge donations of money to the work. Proper recognition of those who make this kind of donation helps to stimulate others. We have a bachelors' club which any single man may join by contributing a dollar or more. Our largest individual contribution was \$75 in 1931. Last year \$40 was contributed by a banker. We always receive several hundred dollars to help in the expenses.

The general chairman is a busy woman, and she must be in robust health to stand the strain! Her daily use of diplomacy, her patience and enthusiasm must be evident all the time. It is she who sets the pace and keeps the ship on an even keel. Around the luncheon table each day her executive committee goes over the details and plans of operation. The whole spirit is one of a great game to be played on a definite time schedule, with the most gratifying of all rewards at the conclusion.

#### On December 23rd

At the close of the day, with the last shipment gone, a weary but happy group of workers face one another and smile. As one chairman put it: "Since I became a part of the toy shower my Christmas has taken on a new meaning. When I wake up on Christmas morning I immediately vision 50,000 children happy over the toys we sent them. My small share in this happiness creates a spirit for the day that I have never known before." She expressed the thoughts of all the members.

During the day the executive committee has found time to have a party for the men at the Shelter. These men received gifts and tobacco and were made to feel how important their work was in the success of the project.

The day before Christmas is "clean-up" day. All odds and ends are gathered up and sent to the Goodwill Industries who make good use of them. Shipments are made to our storage of materials to be used another year.

The executive secretary of the association has been so busy during this exciting month that he had an excellent alibi for not purchasing Christmas gifts!

Soon after the holidays the executive committee is called by the chairman. While everything is still vividly in mind they discuss such problems as—"What mistakes did we make?" "How can we improve our operation for another year?" Letters of appreciation are sent out for donations and special services. Plans and policies are formulated for the next big venture.

#### Some Important Results

Four years ago a committee of the association made a survey of the recreational needs of the child-caring agencies. In most cases the superintendent welcomed the committee with the remark, "Oh, yes, your association is the one that sent us the lovely toys at Christmas." Later a year-round worker was employed as Director of Play in Institutions by the Association to follow up the outline of work to be done as a result of the committee's findings and recommendations. The toy shower helped to establish cordial and sympathetic relationships with the executives of these institutions.

Our association through the medium of the toy shower becomes better known to thousands of school children and adult volunteers. They know to whom they may come for help in the play and recreation work of the city.

The best result of all is the service rendered to the agencies. At Christmas, with curtailed budgets, these organizations faced the problem of no toys. For years past they have always made good with their young friends. To fail them now at the time they need help most would be tragic. Our toy shower, organized at the beginning of the depression, has saved the day for them. We need not mention the joy and happiness given the children.

Finally, it is a splendid project for the board of directors—a project which they can do in a magnificent way themselves. The success earned is also an earned individual and collective achievement. It is good practice for a board of directors to take a direct hand in the affairs for which they are responsible, to do something besides merely attending board meetings and hearing the accomplishments of their employed staff.

Yes, indeed, from every point of view a toy shower is an "A No. 1" recreational activity!



# Athletic Standards for Girls

What high school girls do in athletic programs, what they would like to do, and what experts think they should do!

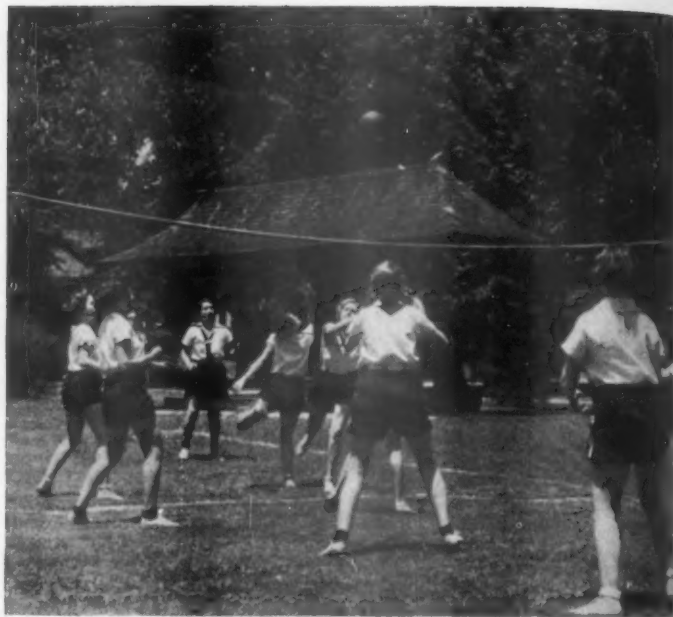
**I**N ESTABLISHING standards concerned with the selection of girls' athletic activities for the high school program, it is proposed that the activities selected by experts in the light of present pupil participation and preference be taken as a guide."

With this underlying principle in mind, Miss Helen L. Coops in her study of "High School Standards in Girls Athletics in the State of Ohio" has attempted, as far as the selection of activities is concerned, to present data from the information secured which contribute to the construction of such standards and lead to the establishing of a list of athletic activities recommended for high school girls.

In securing data the following questions were considered:

- I. Present participation of high school girls in athletic activities:
  1. During required physical education classes
  2. In program arranged by the school for after-school hours
- II. State preference of high school girls in athletic activities according to the following items:
  1. Activities enjoyed most during the year 1930-1931
  2. Activities which girls think they would enjoy most if the opportunity offered
- III. Recommendations of experts concerning the relative value of separate athletic activities for high school girls.

Some of the findings will be of interest.



*Courtesy Memphis Recreation Department*

Volley ball ranks high from the point of view of both popularity and desirability.

I. The girls indicated baseball to be the most popular activity in the required physical education classes. It was checked by 77 per cent. Basketball (66 per cent) and volley ball (64 per cent) followed close behind. These three activities were followed by a group of eight games of low organization and individual track and field events which averaged 40 per cent participation (dodge ball, basketball throw, foul shooting, running races, baseball throw, kick ball, high jump and broad jump). The percentage of participation for all activities was much higher in the city district schools with the single exception of basketball. In exempted village and county district schools only four activities were checked by more than 33 per cent of the girls—baseball, basketball, volley ball and dodge ball.

In their after-school athletic program provided by the school the three most popular activities were basketball (32 per cent), baseball (24 per cent) and volley ball (14 per cent). Swimming (9 per cent) came next on the list.

"The extent of participation and the choice of activities were not as noticeably different in the two types of schools as it was in the required physical education classes. Swimming and tennis stood out in the city schools, while basketball and foul shooting seemed to be much more popular in the other type of schools."



II. Findings from question No. 1 regarding activities which girls enjoyed most in 1930-1931 showed basketball most popular (39 per cent). Following in order were baseball (27 per cent), volley ball (11 per cent) swimming (11 per cent) and tennis (8 per cent). "With the following four exceptions there was very little difference in the response from girls in different types of schools. Basketball (55 per cent) was checked by twice the number of girls in exempted village and county district schools. On the other hand, swimming, tennis and baseball were more popular among city district school girls."

The question as to activities the girls "think they would enjoy most whether they had ever tried them or not," brought out some interesting answers. The first four activities significantly chosen were tennis (26 per cent), swimming (22 per cent), horseback riding (17 per cent), and golf (11 per cent). Following these four were basketball (9 per cent), archery (5 per cent), and hiking (5 per cent). "The stated choice of girls in different types of schools is vary similar. Their choice is most obvious and with the possible exception of basketball, the activities are all individual and dual sports. It is interesting to note that the activities which girls think they would enjoy most are not at all those in which they participate during their required physical education classes or in the after-school program arranged by the school. This indication tends to confirm the point made in a recent White House Conference survey that 'current practice in the high school athletic program for girls has very little relation to what girls really prefer to do.'"

### Recommendations of Experts

III. The same list of athletic activities submitted to the girls was sent to a committee of experts in Ohio who worked with Miss Coops on the study to find out which activities they would recommend for high school girls and how they would rank these activities in the relative order of their importance. For convenience the activities were divided into the following homogeneous groups: (1) Individual and dual sports; (2) Team games of high degree of

skill; (3) Team games of low degree of skill.

**Individual and Dual Sports.** Experts were asked to rank seventeen individual and dual sports in relative order of their importance. The following nine activities were recommended by eleven experts: swimming, tennis, hiking, golf, horseback riding, archery, deck tennis, horseshoe pitching, running races (dash).

The following three activities were declared of less value by experts: basketball throw for distance, baseball throw for distance, and basketball foul shooting.

The following five activities were judged of least value by experts. They were condemned by fourteen experts both because of intrinsic character and because of their relative unimportance when compared with other activities: rifle shooting, running broad jump, hurdling races, high jump, and standing broad jump.

Two experts suggested that badminton, bowling and skating be added to the list of individual and dual sports.

"It is interesting to note that the first six activities selected by the Ohio experts appeared in the same order as the first six individual and dual sports selected by a national group of eighty-seven experts in the recent White House Conference survey. It is also significant that these same six activities were the outstanding six first mentioned in the list of athletic activities which Ohio girls thought they would enjoy most if opportunity offered."

**Team Games of High Degree of Skill.** The six team games ranked in relative order of their importance were: volley ball, baseball, field hockey, basketball, soccer, and speedball. Two experts advised the elimination of field hockey and three of speedball. Several suggested modified rules for soccer. The three activities which were unanimously recommended and which appeared first in all lists denoted by the girls themselves were volley ball, baseball and basketball.

**Team Games of Low Degree of Skill.** Asked to rank ten games of this group in relative order of their importance, the experts made

Through the courtesy of Miss Helen L. Coops of the University of Cincinnati, we are presenting some data from a study of "High School Standards in Girls Athletics in the State of Ohio," submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Philosophy, Columbia University. Miss Coops' dissertation deals with the selection of girls' athletic activities, their organization and health considerations and safeguards for girls. The abstracts here deal primarily with the selection of activities since this subject is of very definite interest to recreation workers in planning their programs.

the following list: kickball, dodge ball, captain ball, keep away, center ball, end ball, German bat ball, Newcomb, Liberty ball and punch ball. The following additional games were suggested: overtake, crisscross, obstacle relays, giant basketball, pinguard, hit pin baseball, line soccer, and bombardment.

"In the Ohio survey these games appeared significantly on but one list, that of participation during the required physical education classes. It may be inferred from the above information that these are elementary games leading up to the more highly skilled activities and involving elements of practice for them. It may be assumed that only in this capacity do they belong in the high school program for girls."

### Some General Findings

A few of the general findings as they relate to the scope and emphasis of the athletic program for high school girls follow:

1. Concerning the variety and extent of athletic participation, 57 per cent of all girls answering the research form state that they engaged in some form of intramural or interscholastic competition during the year. Their interest in present activity is suggested when 75 per cent of the girls state that they would like to keep on playing the same athletic games when they graduate from school.

Concerning variety and extent of athletic participation, experts agree that: (1) The athletic program should be varied and extensive, ranging in number of activities in proportion to the size of the school; and (2) Instruction and supervision should provide for each girl, according to her physical ability, opportunity for participation in a number of different types of activity in order to ensure a wide knowledge of athletics and thus to broaden appreciation.

Experts approve of the suggested policy of requiring each girl to have knowledge of at least two individual sports, two team games of high degree of skill and two games of low degree of skill.

2. Experts agree that the athletic program should provide opportunity for special proficiency in at least one activity selected by the girl, in order to ensure acquisition of skill in an activity which is judged desirable and satisfactory to her

at the time. The method of requiring evidence of this skill must be left to the local school.

3. Leisure-time athletic activities most significantly mentioned by girls are swimming, tennis, hiking, horseback riding, and golf. These are the activities which experts nationally recommend for high school girls. Related literature indicates that the activities which high school girls engage in during their leisure time are apt to be the same which they engage in after school days are past.

Experts agree that instruction and supervision should provide for each girl, according to her physical ability, interest in athletic activities which can be carried on after school days are past, in order to provide for leisure time in later life. Experts approve of the suggestion that each girl be required to demonstrate knowledge of at least one activity of this type.

4. The majority of experts agree that team games of high degree of skill, except the less strenuous games of baseball and volley ball, should be limited to the third and fourth years of high school.

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"Only a few trends in physical education, based on the data gathered for this study, can be given here. In the first place, the trend in the type of work offered in physical education has been for some time, and still is, away from calisthenics and formalized drill and toward games and free play. Consequently, in matters of equipment this changes the chief interest from heavy apparatus in the gymnasium to sufficient space and facilities for games both indoor and outdoor.

"The trend in the size of classes in physical education is toward large groups. Instructors frequently stated that the size of the class caused less concern than the size of the gymnasium or playing field.

"Increasing interest is being shown by the schools in the physical activities of pupils during out-of-school hours. The objective of making healthful recreation habitual to children, of developing desirable traits of character, and of learning games which can be played during adult life, has led the schools in increasing numbers to supply playground supervision after school in the evenings, on Saturdays and during summers."

Extracts from "Summary and Trends" in *Health Work and Physical Education*, Bulletin, 1932, No. 17, Office of Education, Washington, D. C.



Some activities in Bloomfield, one of the communities to benefit by the state's program.



## New Jersey Produces



Leadership makes possible a program of sufficient variety to appeal to all.

ONE WOULD expect the "Garden State" to produce excellent potatoes, asparagus, strawberries and peaches. Still many of the qualities which make for success in agriculture yield success in other fields—recreational programs as part of the emergency relief projects, for example.

In the spring of 1932, the State Emergency Relief realized that food, shelter and clothing were only part of the relief needed. While these cared for the physical, they did not adequately meet the need for sustaining courage and hope, two qualities very vital to health—physical as well as mental. At that time they urged the setting up of reading and quiet game rooms in centers of population, and the use of school buildings as neighborhood community centers, and authorized that leadership might be used as work relief from the white collar unemployed. This resulted in a number of such shelters and centers being opened under unemployed leadership.

In the spring of this year, New Jersey faced serious curtailment of local recreation leadership due to cuts in budgets which meant the closing of play areas and reductions of programs generally. John Colt, Director of Emergency Relief asked the National Recreation Association to make a hasty inquiry as to just how serious the problem was throughout the state. On a basis of the needs

revealed, Mr. Colt authorized the securing of resident recreation leaders with the highest education and experience qualifications to be found to be paid for from State Emergency Relief funds—the maximum not to exceed \$20.00—\$25.00 per week. The final wages paid ranged between \$60.00—\$80.00 per month.

The definite accomplishments for the summer were—154 workers provided in nine counties and thirty-six communities—twenty-two of which had leadership for the first time. Some county supervisors of leisure time programs were secured in order that they might promote the setting up of local recreation committees in new communities and secure leadership to be placed under them. In municipalities where a Recreation Department existed, the assistance ranged all the way from several supervisors up to an entire playground staff in one of our larger cities which had planned to close all its playgrounds.

This program was so worthwhile in results accomplished that the State Administration has engaged Mrs. Marjorie Geary Woodlock as Director of Leisure Time Programs in order to develop and carry on the winter work particularly directed towards youth and adults. She was formerly on the Association's staff and Director of the Community House and Recreation Program at Dalton,

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# What Will We Do With Our Time?

**S**O FAR as I know I was the first person in America specifically to urge—as I

did in an address twenty years ago—that one of the aims of education should be the preparation for the best use of leisure time. I discovered after I had reached this conclusion that Aristotle had said the same thing over two thousand years ago. Indeed he made training for leisure the chief end of education. But he was thinking of the small leisure class and not of the many as we are today. I am now ready to say that the use of free time will become the chief social problem when the whole nation has been put to work for a shorter day and week. And it will be a much more difficult task of society to get people to use their free time wisely than to labor efficiently.

Civilization began when the pure individualists of pre-historic ages (in the long and tedious leisure between the times of spasmodic labor) practiced their crude creative arts. Then there developed a leisure class and a working class, one-fourth having all the leisure, as in Greece, and three-fourths all the labor. Then everybody was set to work. But hardly was that done when it began to be seen how fatal it was to human development that everybody should work all the time, and the hours of work were restricted: first for children (that they might grow and learn the fundamental lessons of the race), then for women and lastly for men as well. And now civilization is entering upon a new day with a longer afternoon of leisure. I say afternoon for I am remembering Owen Young's mother's definition of unemployment and leisure: "It is the worst thing in the world to have a man sitting around the kitchen stove after breakfast. It is the nicest thing to have him come home early in the afternoon."

**An Interesting  
Coincidence**

It is a coincidence

**By JOHN H. FINLEY**  
Associate Editor, New York Times

This address by Dr. Finley was one of three delivered on August fifteenth over a nationwide network for the National Broadcasting Company in a series of lectures on government sponsored by the Committee on Civic Education by Radio of the National Advisory Council on Radio in Education and the American Political Science Association. Under the general subject, "Reducing the Recreation Budget," addresses were given by Dr. Finley, Colonel H. Edmund Bullis and Roy Smith Wallace. The addresses are reprinted here by courtesy of the *National Municipal Review*.

which others must have noticed that the National Recovery Administration and the National

Recreation Association have the same initials. They are both N. R. A. movements in that they both have a national construction and reconstruction purpose—the one an economic recovery primarily, the other a personal development or recovering of strength and of spirit. The second has a very definite and sequential relationship to the first. The National Recovery Act will shorten for millions the work period in the day and week. The National Recreation Association seeks to make possible the most beneficial use of the longer periods of leisure which the codes have suddenly provided. Having been devoting itself for a quarter of a century to this very problem of making joyous, creative and especially recreative use of leisure time for whole communities, it is prepared to be of service in this new era of man's freedom, due to his enlarged free time. He may have lost some of his freedom in his hours of work. He has added to his freedom in his hours of leisure. In the planning for this new time—this "New Deal" as it is called—there should be every possible budget economy but it must be remembered that because of this very marked increase in leisure there will be the greater need of both educational and recreational services in every community of the land.

## Recreation and Crime Prevention

I have been asked to speak especially about the part that recreation has or may have in crime prevention. But I would rather speak of the positive side of recreation that in its compelling interest would in itself reduce the delinquency budgets. The total estimated cost of crime in the United States is upwards of \$350,000,000; in New York City alone



over \$50,000,000, a per capita of \$7.76, while the cost of organized recreation in parks, playgrounds and school centers is only 22 cents per capita. The best way to reduce the total combined budgets of recreation and crime is to increase the provision for recreation. It will show itself in more than a commensurate cutting down of the crime budget. This is demonstrable. I regret that I have not the time to give supporting figures.

I turn again to stress the importance of saving to the good of the individual and society those hours of free time suddenly added to the calendar of millions—of making them more beneficent hours than they were as work hours.

I was brought up on a Sunday school song which began "Work, for the night is coming." It seems now, by reason of restricted hours of labor and the agonizing extent of unemployment, quite out of date. What we need to buoy our hearts is a song for the hours that can no longer be filled with work—the hours of free or compelled leisure—but should none the less be used to make life as abundant, happy, and useful as it was for those who sang a half century ago with ardor the song of work which enjoined us to "work thru' the morning hours; to work while the dew is sparkling; to work mid springing flowers; to work while the day grows brighter, to work through the sunny noon; to fill brightest hours with labor, to give every flying minute something to keep in store; to work under the sunset skies, to work while the last beam fadeth, fadeth to shine no more; and even to work, while night is darkening, when man's work is o'er."

### A Substitute for Work

It was a joyous song whose only sad line was "when man's work is o'er." The sad experience of the last few years is that millions have had no opportunity to "fill brightest hours with labor."

Substitute for the word "work" one which suggests the fullest active enjoyment of the hours which have been released for one's free use and you have a song for a new day and for the "New Deal," as it is called. I should use the word "play" if it still kept its original meaning, which was to "occupy one's self busily about a thing or person," to "cultivate," to "exercise one's self



Many cities have found it economy to reduce delinquency budgets by providing recreation

habitually in an action," to "rejoice" and "be glad."

But "play" is not quite comprehensive enough in its usual definition, though heaven knows, we need even play, just play for thousands of children who can have it only at their peril in city streets. But the word recreation is broad enough to include "play" in its every expression and also many activities that are usually not thought of as play—music, the drama, the crafts, every free activity and especially creative activity for the enrichment of life.

And the moral of all that we have said is that some of this provision has to be made by the communities. The individuals cannot do it for themselves. National provision for recreation is an essential corollary of recovery: so now we say with Shakespeare "Come now my Ariel bring a corollary."

"The idea is dawning that we must first learn how to live. Slowly and painfully, here and there, among the few rather than the many, a new vision is forming of a world in which the main objective of human effort will be free, rewarding and joyous living."—*Wellesley College Quarterly*

# Reducing the Recreation Budget

By ROY SMITH WALLACE  
National Recreation Association

THE COST of carrying on public recreation work is not large. The total budgets for about 1,000 cities as reported yearly to the National Recreation Association indicate a total expenditure in 1930, the peak year, of \$38,500,000; and in 1932, of \$28,000,000. Please note that the 1932 expenditures represent a 28 per cent cut from the maximum expenditures attained in 1930.

These expenditures represent a very small proportion of the total budget of the cities of the country. For instance, in New York City, the total expenditure of over \$1,600,000 represents a little over 1-5 or 1 per cent of the total budget of the city for 1932. Large savings in governmental expenditure obviously cannot be made in such insignificantly small budgets.

## Per Capita Cost Low

Not only is the total cost small, the per capita cost also is low. In New York, the public recreation work of the park departments and of the board of education, including the playgrounds, athletic fields, indoor recreation centers and a rich recreation program and serving in 1932 over 40,000,000 attendants cost only twenty-two cents per capita of population. In other words, for the cost of one admission to the movies, or of a half hour of playing pool, or of a pack or two of cigarettes, the citizens of New York provided for themselves and their children public recreation, indoor and outdoor, for 365 days of the year. Costs vary, but investigation will prove that public recreation supplies wholesome recreation at a lower per capita cost than can be provided in any other way.

All this does not mean, however, that the recre-

tion budgets of the country should not stand their share of the necessary reductions. Indeed, as I have indicated, they have already suffered a 28 per cent cut.

## Budgetary Cuts

First as a method of budget reduction have been cuts in salaries which have ranged from 5 to 20 per cent. Then there has been an almost complete elimination of new capital developments, a retardation to some extent replaced by the use of unemployed labor on work-relief projects in the recreation field.

Next we must report staff reductions, chiefly through the failure to enlarge the staff up to the usual size for the extra playground services required in the summer, and then also through dropping various types of special workers. In this respect the situation in recreation is comparable to the situation in education, where special teachers and special supervisors have so largely been eliminated. In the recreation field, special workers in story-telling, handcraft, music, drama, and athletic activities for women and girls have in many cases been left out entirely.

There has been also some decrease in the amount and cost of the supplies and equipment ordered, that is in the number of baseballs, bats, volley balls, handcraft supplies, etc.

Finally there has been, so to speak, a dilution of service by the use of volunteers and of the unemployed to supplement the services of a skeletonized professional staff. This has been accompanied of course by an increase in the number of training institutes

"There are makers of budgets who classify services such as police, fire, sanitation and health as primary, and recreation, education and welfare, including allowances for parks, planning and other activities, the results of which are not immediately and directly visible, as secondary, and who insist that those activities classified as secondary shall stand the cuts. This view is a mistaken one. . . . If you have less public recreation you will surely have to pay for more delinquency and sickness. The so-called secondary services are newer and not so well understood as those classified as primary, but they are equally important."—Murray Seasongood, ex-Mayor of Cincinnati, Ohio.

and other devices used to increase the competence of these inexperienced workers.

### Quantity and Quality Suffer

All of these methods of budget reduction have reduced not necessarily the *quantity* of the recreational service offered by the communities but in most cases the quality of the work done.

*Quantity* has suffered also. For instance in 1932 there were reported to the National Recreation Association a total number of 6,990 playgrounds in operation. This is a decrease of nearly 700 from the 7,685 in operation in 1931. There were only 1,629 athletic fields in 1932, contrasted with the 1,834 of 1931; there were 4,161 baseball fields as contrasted with the 4,396 of 1931. On the other hand there were a large number of indoor recreation centers open, namely 2,648 in 1932 as contrasted with 2,536 in 1931. Many of this larger number in 1932 were however, open for fewer afternoons and evenings per week.

### Increased Need for Service

It should be borne in mind too that the present depression which has made it so imperative to cut budgets has greatly increased the need for recreational services. Men, women and children have fewer dollars to spend on recreation at the movies, at summer camps, at vacation resorts, in pleasure touring, etc., and they turn more than ever before to the free public recreational facilities. Furthermore there is a tremendously urgent need on the part of unemployed adults for something worthwhile to do with their enforced leisure. Idleness can be and is thoroughly demoralizing and hundreds of thousands of the unemployed, especially the young adults, have taken advantage of the public recreational facilities to keep up their physical fitness and their morale.

There has been therefore a general increase in the services rendered by the public recreation departments. The playground attendances for in-



Courtesy of the Cleveland News

One of the features of a campaign which resulted in restoring the entire playground budget.

stance in 1929 were 159,000,000 as contrasted with 236,000,000 in 1932, an increase of 47 per cent. In the recreation centers in 1929 there were about 24,000,000 attendances whereas in 1932 the attendances numbered 34,000,000, an increase of about 41 per cent. The attendances at the summer playgrounds in 1932 showed an increase *per playground* of 45 per cent over 1931. Attendances at indoor swimming pools *doubled* between 1931 and 1932.

All recreational leaders have reported a very heavy increase, for both the playgrounds and the recreation centers, in the proportion of young adults — mostly unemployed — in attendance at these centers.

### Public Responsibility

It would seem desirable and important that cuts in recreation budgets, at this time when the need

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# Play and Keep Mentally Well

By H. EDMUND BULLIS

Executive Officer

National Committee on Mental Hygiene

**A prescription for all who would safeguard themselves against mental illnesses**

"There is as much wisdom in cutting the recreational budget at this time as there would be in curtailing the work of the health department in the midst of an epidemic of smallpox."

**T**ODAY IN THE hospitals of the United States there are more patients suffering from mental diseases than from all other diseases combined. In 1930, according to the last annual enumeration of the Federal Census Bureau, there were nearly 400,000 patients under care in our state mental hospitals alone, at a total cost to our taxpayers of about \$250,000.

## Cost of Mental Disease

New York spent almost \$45,000,000 in 1931 on maintenance of patients in institutions for mental disease. During the same year Massachusetts spent nineteen cents of every state tax dollar on the care of the mentally deranged.

About 75,000 new cases are admitted every year. At this rate, allowing for deaths and discharges, the population of our mental hospitals is increasing by about 10,000 a year. A recent study of mental-disease expectancy in New York State showed that one person out of every twenty-two becomes a patient in a mental hospital sometime during his or her lifetime.

## Prevention the Best Cure

These figures will give you some idea of the staggering burden of mental disease in the United States at the present time. While the recovery rates in mental hospitals are steadily increasing, thanks to improved methods of treatment and to the stimulus of the mental hygiene movement, our greatest hope of reducing the tremendous expenditures for the mentally sick lies in prevention.

For the past twenty years the energies of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene and its affiliated state and local organizations have been increasingly devoted to the development of men-

tal hygiene activities in colleges, schools, clinics, courts, and at other points in the community strategic from the standpoint of prevention. Our prospects for the reduction and control of mental disorders depend ultimately upon the building up of an adequate community organization and the encouragement and support of medical, educational, social, and other community measures favorable to the creation of a mentally healthful environment.

Among these none is more important than those which have to do with the development of recreational and other resources of the community that serve the leisure-time needs of our people and contribute to the preservation of their physical health. A sound mind in a sound body is still a good adage.

## A Complex Problem

Unfortunately, the prevention of mental illness is not as simple as the prevention of typhoid, tuberculosis or diphtheria. Our problem is more complex. We know the kinds of backgrounds—such as family situations, troubled states of mind, mental conflicts, and painful life experiences that so often lead to one form or another of insanity and the lesser forms of mental disorder. The removal of such causative factors, however, requires a complicated method of procedure and individualized study and treatment in every case.

We cannot offer a mental-health blue print of rules and directions comparable to vaccination and other protective devices such as are employed in the general field of public health. We do know, however, that people who are kept well occupied and not unduly subjected to fears and worries,



are by that much freer of the threat of mental disease. Occupational therapy has been of enormous value in the treatment of the mentally sick. It is by the same token a powerful preventive of mental and nervous disorders. Recreation—one form of occupational therapy—is a vital factor in personality development, and no community can consider itself adequate that does not make extensive use of the benefits of recreation. It is one of the best prescriptions we can give for those who would safeguard themselves against mental illness.

### Depression's Influence

The present economic crisis is exposing thousands of people to the mental hazards of anxiety, fear, insecurity, and the stresses and strains that naturally spring from unemployment and economic distress. Our mental hospitals report a marked increase in new admissions and readmissions during the past year which they ascribe, in part, to depression conditions. Thus, we see that there is great need for communities to concentrate more intelligent thought, more money, and more effort than ever before upon properly planned recreational programs that in the long run contribute to prevention and help to stem the tide of increasing insanity.

Food, clothing, and shelter are essential but they are not enough. If the unemployed are to maintain a normal balance, they must have something in addition to what is ordinarily provided by relief agencies. They need opportunities for wholesome emotional outlets; they need substitutes for anti-social behavior tendencies; in short, they need help in restoring a morale which has been in a majority of cases badly shattered.

It is not an easy matter for self-respecting people, who are willing to earn their way, to have to accept relief. They are unhappy and wretched, discouraged and depressed, even when their physical needs are provided for. They are being added to that large class of maladjusted people who feed our mental hospitals.

### Effective Antidote

Man does not live by bread alone. The spiritual hunger that comes from lack of something to do is second only to the physical hunger that comes from lack of food. Material relief may prevent

starvation but it will not prevent the mental morbidity that so often leads to suicide, anti-social attitudes, discontent, and a general loss of character and morale. Wholesome recreation is an effective antidote to all of this.

During the World War, as an officer with the A. E. F., I had ample opportunity to observe the great morale-building forces of recreation at work among the troops. There was a concerted and organized drive to provide recreation for our soldiers, because it was felt that the emergency required it. A far greater emergency exists today among our unemployed who have not even the consolation of being considered heroes in a great cause.

In the light of these facts it is disheartening to find that instead of extending their recreational facilities at this time, many communities are short-sighted enough to treat recreational expense as a handy item for drastic budgetary curtailment. Regarding recreation as a luxury, they find it easier to reduce these facilities, in some instances even eliminating them entirely, than to practice economy all along the line. To the officials of such communities—and to the people who elect them to office—we leave this parting warning: There is as much wisdom in cutting the recreational budget at this time as there would be in curtailing the work of the health department in the midst of an epidemic of smallpox.

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"An organization which has been bringing more abundant life into a community can meet only a fraction of the obvious need for such an organization. The plans of our lives both for ourselves and our families are shattered. The collapse of our hopes is so complete that we think no longer in terms of discouragement but in thoughts of despair. We are in danger of conforming to our world; it would be easy now to let the lines of our spirit fall into the pattern of despair.

"And yet never was there such need for creative spiritual insight as now. Those who possess it will find new ways for making secure for themselves, their community and their world those values which belong to the hidden empire of God."—*Rhoda E. McCulloch*, in the *Womans Press*, July-August, 1933.

# Home-Made Music

By EMANUEL ELSTON

IT IS FREQUENTLY said that Americans are not musical as a people. Is this to be interpreted as meaning that musical capacity is lacking? There is no proof. But in another sense it is only too true that we are not a musical people—in the sense that a musical people is a people who made music either by singing or by playing, or by both.

The Italians, the Germans, the Russians are musical, not only because they have given the world great musicians and composers, but essentially because music-making is universal with them. We should, perhaps, be nearer to the truth if we said that these nations produced so many great musicians because the people themselves are so interested in making their own music that they have provided a stimulating musical environment in which musical genius thrives.

There is no reason to believe that Americans have less actual musical capacity than others. But as a nation occupied with the bustle and turmoil of exploiting a continent, we have been content to buy our music from those reputed to be technically trained and equipped to furnish it. It has not, apparently, occurred to us that if the joy in listening is great, the joy in making music is even greater.

As a nation, we get even our ubiquitous jazz vicariously. We have abrogated our right to express ourselves musically and, unfortunately, music teachers have made little effort to discourage this surrender of our rights. They, too, have worshipped the fetish of music for trained musicians only. We have laid down our musical heritage as a sacrifice upon the altar of false idols—the idols of skillful digitation at an instrument and technical perfection of vocal utterance. It would be just as wise to surrender our right to speech and to permit only those who have had training in elocution and oratory to do our thinking and speaking for us. (There are those to be sure, who maintain, in view of the sad plight the

country finds itself in at the present time, that Americans are guilty of having done even that.)

## Importance of Singing

Dr. Surette has said, "We are all more musical than we are thought to be; we are all more musical than we get the chance to be." We might add that we are all more musical than we *give* ourselves the chance to be. How, it is asked, can we possibly make music, if we have had no training? The very question reveals the false idols to which we have paid homage. We fail to realize that nature has provided us with the most beautiful of all instruments, the voice, which we can use as easily for the making of music as for the making of speech. We have worshipped mechanical perfection so much that we have applied the same criterion to the music that we might make. We have felt that only those blessed with unusually beautiful voices may sing. But why? Do the Russians, the Germans, the Italians have any such notion? No, they have not surrendered their inalienable right to self-expression through singing.

Singing is as natural a manner of expression and as universal a capacity as speech. It is not merely the technical perfection and mastery of the voice, but the very process of singing itself that gives pleasure. Many adults have been misled by others or by themselves into believing they cannot "carry a tune." The number of real monotonies in our population is probably no greater than the number of persons who are deaf and dumb. Adults and children who have convinced themselves that they cannot sing, do not sing—not because they really cannot, but because they have lost faith in their ability to do so. More

often than not, the inhibition dates back to childhood, to the time when the individual has not as yet "found" his singing voice. Having been told from then on that he cannot carry a tune, that he

**True appreciation grows out of shared pleasures which are really enjoyed by grown-ups as well as children. This is the theme of Mr. Elston's article published by courtesy of *Child Study* and of the author.**

cannot sing, he never again even tries. This is what frequently happens to those children whom the public schools classify as "listeners," a misnomer, if there ever was one, since most children thus designated neither listen, nor know how to listen to music. Having been so dubbed, they receive no further help in learning to listen or learning to sing. Much havoc is wrought by this policy of telling those children who have any difficulty in carrying a tune that they must not even attempt to sing. They become conditioned for life and are frequently deprived of the right to further musical development through the prevalent misconception that inability to carry a tune is indisputable evidence of complete lack of musical capacity. This, in spite of the fact that many very musical children and adults cannot carry a tune, usually because they have never been led to "find" their singing voice and because they have been completely, although unjustifiably, discouraged.

Music education should rest on a foundation of singing. The voice is the most natural and the most beautiful of all musical instruments. Children and adults can and should sing, regardless of cultivated technical perfection. The aim of singing should be the pleasure to be derived from it, rather than technical perfection or voice training.

#### Family-Made Music

There is nothing that encourages children's interest more than music made by the family. Probably the most significant way in which par-

ents can be of service in their children's musical development lies in encouraging and stimulating them to sing. This should not be interpreted to mean that the children should be given vocal training, but rather that they should be given rich musical experiences, through the utilization of that beautiful, intimate instrument which they carry about everywhere with them. The home can help to make music functional and vital in the lives of all the members of the family. Children need never feel that music exists for the sole purpose of forcing them to practise.

Folk songs, the simple, beautiful musical expression of the human race and the basis of most good music, might well constitute the essential material of family singing. They are easily learned and are enjoyed by adults as well as by children. Any child who is studying music in a progressive school can easily teach what he learns there to the other members of the family. Of course the family need not depend upon this source alone for its repertoire. There are many excellent collections of folk songs and every family is acquainted with someone who could help them to learn the tunes. Nothing better could be desired than a repertoire of folk songs for the development of good taste in music. Theodore Thomas once said that "popular music is the music we are familiar with." With a background

*(Continued on page 393)*

**A group of children in Birmingham, Alabama, happily engaged in making their own music.**



*Courtesy Park and Recreation Board, Birmingham*



# Recreation As a Preparation for Life

When we spend tax funds for things which build up children's health and character, we are spending wisely.

By

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

I AM SURE that every one in this room is interested in children and their recreation as a part of their preparation for life. Recreation, as you all know, is becoming more and more important to us because we are going to find that we will have more leisure time, and therefore, when the children are children they must learn to use leisure time. For this purpose there is nothing more important than our parks and playgrounds, and our recreation centers. We need not only the space and the equipment, but we need directors who are wise in the training of children. There are many things that can be learned in the playgrounds. We can learn good sportsmanship; we can learn unselfishness; we can learn loyalty, and we can learn the necessity of give and take, which is perhaps one of the most useful lessons for future life—being able to mix with a group and work for the good of a team rather than for our own individual satisfaction. Many lessons can be learned very easily on the playgrounds if there are people there who can direct the play and wisely teach the children.

## A Wise Use for Tax Funds

There is a great deal which may be said about the cost of taxes to the people for recreation facilities for children, and this is a subject which I am sure that somebody far better equipped than I am has discussed. But in a general way I want to suggest to you what has always seemed to me the very best argument for this kind of taxes. When we pay taxes for things which build up children's health, which build their character, we are paying

taxes for constructive things for the future. We all know that a great deal of juvenile delinquency and crime could be prevented if more children could be supervised in their play, and could be induced to join in playground activities; and when we consider what it costs us as taxpayers in the waste of human beings when they become criminals and in property, or property belonging to human beings through lack of education and lack of recreational facilities for young people, I think that all of us will agree that we can well afford always to pay taxes for the things that are going to make better citizens for us in the coming generation. This is particularly so now when we are preparing young people for more leisure time. The more we can give our young people in parks and playgrounds, a love of the outdoors, a love of the feeling of being in good condition and feeling well, the more it will tend to fill their time profitably and to give them a side which can well be developed and help them to fill many hours of leisure time.

I am always impressed by the remarkable programs which our various settlement houses and different groups that are interested in children carry on in their work, but I still feel there are many, many children that could be reached and should be reached in a big city like New York and many other cities throughout the country. I think New York always stands as the example which is followed along many lines, and I hope that we will always be able to point to our parks and playgrounds and our recreational facilities for children, and to say that

On October 3rd Mrs. Roosevelt addressed the New York City Recreation Conference held under the auspices of the Recreation Bureau, Department of Parks, Manhattan. Hon. John E. Sheehy, Park Commissioner, presided at the conference. Addresses were made by George Gordon Battle and by Roy Smith Wallace. Other features of the program were musical selections by the University Concert Orchestra, and a demonstration of dancing by children of the park playgrounds.

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"The open air and the earth under his feet are as necessary to the child's healthy growth as the water is to the fish or the air to the birds."

*Courtesy Ministry of Hygiene and Physical Education, Czechoslovakia*

## More Time for Play

By ANGELO PATRI

IF I HAD SO LITTLE money for school activities that I had to enlarge the classes and overwork the teachers and all that, I would cut down the classroom work and extend the play activities. You see, children understand about play. They don't need so much supervision nor so much instruction when they are playing in the open air as when they are studying in the classroom. Nobody has to remind them to finish a game of ball. Catch a child stopping before the final moment. Not he. He begins another game as fast as he can for fear you might notice he has finished and give him something to do, something improving, as it were.

### Play Is Serious

Play is the business of childhood. And a serious business it is. Nature ordained that play should be the method of a child's growth. His muscles and nerves must be coordinated before they can serve him, and play is the answer to that problem.

He must learn to give

and take, to help a job forward, to give all he has in an effort to get what he wants in cooperation with his fellows, and play is the answer to that. He must learn to find his place in the group and maintain it in spite of all comers, and team play is the answer to that.

The open air and the earth under his feet are as necessary to his healthy growth as the water is to the fish or the air to the birds. It is not possible to rear healthy, well-adjusted children in closed rooms. The best ventilating system put on the market must take a lower place when fresh air, filtering through sunshine, is offered in its stead. No air, however cleansed, humidified, heated and cooled can take the place of the air that rides in the chariots of clouds driven by the winds and warmed by the sun.

### A Means of Education

Play is a good use of a child's time. I believe that children learn better and retain more if they have plenty of free play in the open air than if they sit for long periods in the classrooms under

the strain of questioning, tests, study and recitations to recording angels.

There is a distinct relation between play and work. A child carries his play habits into his work because his work is but the continu-

*(Continued on page 394)*

The article by Mr. Patri which appeared in the March issue of RECREATION aroused so much interest that we have obtained permission from the Bell Syndicate, Inc., to reprint an article which was published in the April 6th issue of the Chicago daily newspapers and papers in other cities. The article was entitled "More Time for Play Is Necessary Relief for Children and Teachers."

# The Uses of Leisure

By EDWIN R. EMBREE

President, Julius Rosenwald Foundation

IN CONSIDERING the uses of leisure, let us inquire first whether there is any great likelihood that we are going to have more leisure. It would be too bad if we went to a lot of trouble to prepare for quiet enjoyment and then found that after all leisure was not forthcoming in any large chunks.

The answer seems really pretty clear. Machine production and efficient division of labor have created a new era. A movement which we call the Industrial Revolution, starting about a hundred and fifty years ago, has been changing the material conditions of our life until today food and clothing and supplies are available in an abundance undreamed of in any other age.

Up to the industrial era, mankind had been engaged in a desperate hand struggle to ward off starvation and privation. With the harnessing of steam and the invention of power-driven machinery, it began to be possible for the first time in history to manufacture goods fast enough to keep up with man's needs. All those things which for ages had been slowly and laboriously made by hand began to be attacked by the all-efficient machine. Cotton cloth could be spun in Manchester to clothe the whole world. Shoes which had previously been wrought by hand in single pairs were manufactured by the million. Chairs and tables which a Phyfe had devoted a lifetime to making were turned out in standard thousands. Scientific farming served by mechanical slaves and extended by new methods of preservation began to be able to supply food for the whole world. Conveniences of the most ingenious sort followed: telephones, central heating, refrigeration, electric lights, vacuum cleaners. Finally, a deluge of handsome toys

came pouring into a gleeful world: bicycles, automobiles, phonographs, radios. We live today in a world of plenty undreamed of by our forefathers. Thanks to the almost miraculous efficiency of machines we can produce enough food and clothes and supplies to meet the material needs of the entire human race.

It is true that there are still individuals who do not share in this new plenty, but that is because of the faults of our distributing machinery, our finance and economics, not because of any lack of real abundance. Even in the midst of the present depression we still have a veritable embarrassment of plenty. In fact, due to the astonishing lacks in our economic system, it is this very abundance which has upset the financial apple-cart. We have the amazing spectacle of people starving because there is too much wheat in the elevators, too much corn and hogs and cattle on the farms; people unable to get clothes because there is too much cotton and wool, having to go barefoot because too many shoes have been manufactured, walking the streets because there are too many automobiles, too many trucks, and trains. The new abundance is so great that it has broken the back of our inadequate systems of finance and distribution.

We can and will straighten out the superficial snarls in our economic order. And meanwhile machine industry is being further perfected every day. We are really in a new era. Man no longer needs to spend his entire time and energy in a mad struggle against starvation and privation. Machines are our everlasting slaves. They will hereafter do most of our drudgery. On the average a few hours of work by each of us during four or five days a week will supply in full measure all the necessities and all

Mr. Embree's article is used through the courtesy of *The Library Journal* in which it originally appeared. Our readers will be interested to know that the September 15th issue of the *Journal* was the third in its series on Leisure and the Library. This special number takes up the subject of vocations and continues the discussion of human interests, or hobbies.

Radio Talk Under Auspices of the American Library Association, May 18, 1933.

the luxuries we can use.

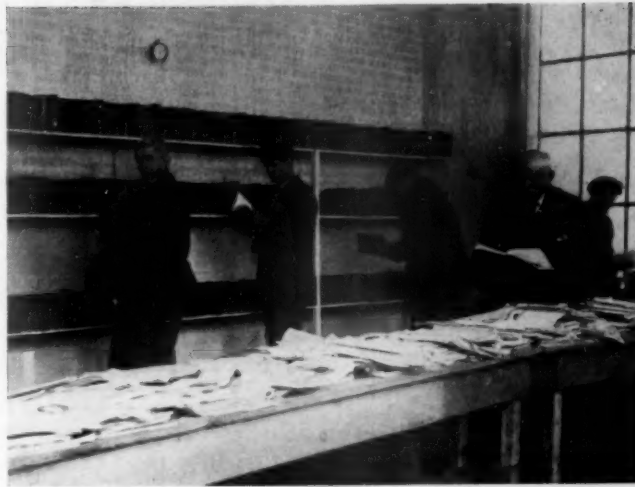
We enter a new freedom. No longer oxen or mules, we now have the opportunity to live as men, even as the Sons of God whom we have so long claimed to be. The only questions are: Can we take advantage of this new freedom; can we change our mental outlook from that of the drudging mules we have had to be throughout the ages and really enter upon a growth toward our god-like heritage?

It is not going to be easy to do this. It doesn't take much imagination to work twelve hours a day and tumble into a weary and sodden sleep at night. Long drudging work has been a great opiate. It has kept most men stupid and dull as dumb driven cattle. It will not be easy for us to accept the responsibilities of the new freedom—this freedom of leisure.

I have just returned from a survey of Java and the other islands of the East Indies. In many ways the people of these beautiful islands are wiser than we. They know that life is to be lived and enjoyed. They realize that drudgery is a curse. And, while they work harder and longer hours than we do in the Western World, they know that labor is not an end in itself, but simply a means of providing materials for real living.

At the end of a hard day of labor in Java and Bali, the people come joyously at twilight for dancing and singing, for playing on the gamelon orchestra, for story telling and the spontaneous acting of folk dramas. In these islands work, even in the day time, is not allowed to interfere too much with enjoyment. The rice fields are kept beautiful not only that the yield may be great, but from a love of creating a beautiful landscape. Labor is often interrupted for village festivals or celebrations in the temples. Drama and song and dance are frequent offerings in honor of the seasons, in thanksgiving over work accomplished, or just in the sheer joy of living.

Lacking the wealth of the West, having to work much harder than we because of crude tools and



In the period of unemployment people have turned more than ever to reading as a satisfying means of employing their leisure time.

poor division of labor, nevertheless these people have not allowed themselves to slump into ox-like stupor. Constantly in every form of art and ex-

pression, they are exuding a full and humane life. If we are to enter our new heritage of leisure, we also must begin to understand that enjoyment and enrichment are the real purposes of life, that labor is only a means to the goal of full rich living.

There are a thousand ways in which different ones of us will work out lives worthy of the Sons of God. I mention only one of them: the reading of books.

Man is different from all the other animals in that he uses speech. He has perfected this most amazing of his tools—language—so that he not only conveys ideas directly to his neighbor but can put this talk onto paper and pass it around for thousands to read today and study in the years to come.

All man's brilliant discoveries are recorded in books, so that any of us may learn what the wisest have searched out. The thinking of the sages is written so clearly that even children can begin to follow the keenest reasoning and the deepest thinking. Poems make crystals of beauty. The most graceful and delicate imaginings are offered to us in stories and sketches. The single book, *Alice in Wonderland*, has carried hundreds of thousands of children—and grown people, too—into gorgeous worlds of fantasy they never could have entered by themselves. Through one volume, the *Bible*, we have the history and folk lore of one of the most interesting of races and for two thousand years millions of us have been able to hear the teachings of an humble inspired prophet as he walked the shores of Galilee.

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# When You Do Your Christmas Planning

**E**ACH CHRISTMAS more toys are being collected, reconditioned and distributed through recreation departments and similar groups; every year shows a greater effort put forth to make Christmas a day of good cheer and happiness for all.

The activities recorded here are being developed in cities throughout the country.

## Christmas Shops

The Waco, Texas, Department of Recreation has an institution known as the Toy Chest which each year collects all kinds of toys, whether they are in good condition or not, for the children of the city whose parents are not able to supply them with toys. After the toys have been collected they are reconditioned by the firemen and other groups and are systematically distributed.

In 1932 the Department held classes in handcraft in nine of the city ward schools—thirty-four classes in all—under the leadership of a competent director. These classes made about 75 stick horses, many of them with stuffed heads and all painted in bright colors, and 50 doll beds and other articles of doll furniture. One of the women's clubs made over a hundred mattresses for the beds. Still another women's club made 35 stuffed animals which were turned over to the Toy Chest for distribution. Groups of Camp Fire girls took fruit and candy to the charity wards of several hospitals. The Negro Department made toys and distributed fruit and candy to a negro orphanage and day nursery.

The Social Service Division of the Department of Recreation provided leadership at a number of Christmas parties or arranged suitable parties on request. It also loaned Santa Claus costumes to many organizations.

About 800 toys were made in the summer playground shops by the boys of Long Beach, California, for distribution through the Christmas Cheer Fund. The toys were a real contribution to the needy children of the community.

Some of last year's experiences in planning for Christmas may suggest ideas for this year's celebration of the festival. There will be increased effort everywhere, through municipal departments and private groups, to insure a Merry Christmas in which all may share.

Four hundred and fifty re-modeled toys and 25 toy airplanes made in the handcraft classes were distributed by the Detroit, Michigan, Department of Recreation to children in hospitals and institutions. Many recreation departments are following similar plans in connection with their Christmas celebration.

## A Toy Information Bureau

During the month of December 1932, the Recreation Commission of Amsterdam, New York, conducted a Toy Information Bureau. Noting that the average clerk in the department stores or shops where toys were sold had little knowledge as to the correct toys for children to have at different ages, the Commission decided to gather as much data on this problem as possible and to make it available for shoppers. Plans included running an article in the daily press before parents did their Christmas shopping. Another important feature of the plan was the presentation of the project to each merchant handling toys. The response was gratifying. Immediately the Commission was given a complete list of the merchants' toys so that if a mother, father or other individual interested called and asked for information on toys, after the information had been given it would be possible to say that the suggested toys could be procured at certain local stores. There were a number of calls for information, and the plan stimulated a great deal of interest and favorable comment among the citizens.

## Christmas in Foreign Lands

The Department of Recreation of the Sioux City, Iowa, public schools and the Recreation Council last year sponsored a Christmas celebration in which methods of observing Christmas in foreign lands were featured.

Contact groups were appointed early in November, and by the first of December the basic foundation of the program was complete. The plan

as outlined by John E. Gronseth, Director of Recreation, was as follows: The twenty or more nationalities interested in taking part were arranged in groups of kindred nations —

The Latin speaking group	Swedish
Mexicans	German
Spanish	Danish
Italian	British Isles group
Slavic group	English
Syrian	Irish
Greek	Scotch
Lithuanian	Welsh
Polish	All American group
Russian	American born,
Teutonic group	including Negro
Norwegians	

The program opened with a meeting of the Latin speaking group on Monday, December 12th, in the Woodrow Wilson Junior School auditorium. Approximately 300 were in attendance. On Tuesday afternoon the Slavic group met at East Junior with an attendance of about 600. No special program was held on Wednesday because of the fact that "The Messiah" was presented. It was necessary to have two programs on Thursday night. The All American and the British Isles groups met at West Junior and North Junior with attendances of 400 and 700 respectively. Friday evening the Teutonic group met at East High School with an attendance of approximately 900.

On Sunday afternoon a composite program was arranged in the form of a pageant, high lights from each weekly program being introduced. The pageant, "They Come Bringing Gifts," written by Miss Hulda Kreutz of the English Department of East High School, was presented with John Peterson of Morningside College serving as reader and interpreter. The Morningside string quartet provided music. The program was very effective and the attendance was approximately 1,200.

The results of the undertaking were gratifying. All groups participating signified their desire to conduct a similar project next year on a larger scale. This series of demonstrations was given without cost to any individual or department, all services being donated. The use of the school buildings was granted by the Board of Education, and there was no admission charge.

In the Chicago *Tribune* for December 25, 1932, Professor William F. Ogburn of the University of Chicago published an article on the significance of Christmas in human experience. He points out that there were festivals at the winter solstice long before Christianity. Primitive farmers and hunters had marked "the coming of more sunlight" and the rhythm of the seasons was more closely linked with the rhythm of the human spirit than seems to be the case in western industrial areas.

Furthermore, the present Christmas is enriched from various heritages. "The Druids contributed the rites of the mistletoe; the Scandinavians brought the custom of burning the yule log; the Germans added the ceremonies surrounding the evergreen, and the Christmas tree. . . .

"An institution of so great a tenacity, far greater than that of nations and governments, can only symbolize how longingly the human heart searches for the first signs of a new day which will lessen its sufferings and give hope of better things to come. . . .

"This is not the time nor the place for the charts and graphs of economic analyses, and

though hope springs eternal in the human breast, we are surfeited with erroneous predictions and false prophets.

"All wisdom is not contained in charts and graphs and this season of

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And the time is fast approaching when we buy Christmas seals!



Courtesy National Tuberculosis Association

# How to Produce a Play

By JACK STUART KNAPP  
National Recreation Association

THE MOST ENJOYABLE phase of rehearsing begins after the lines are learned and the stage business worked out. The more mechanical details of the performance have been learned. The actor's mind is no longer occupied with his lines and his positions. He knows them so well that they no longer require concentration. He is now free to throw himself into his part, to feel the emotion which he is expressing, to become the character which he is portraying. This is when some directors say, "Now you can begin to act!"

## Two Important Questions

Immediately the two often-discussed questions concerning character portrayal and emotional expression will come to the mind of the reader. This is well, because they will undoubtedly be brought up by the actors.

### 1. How much emotion should the actor feel?

Is it possible for the actor to feel all of the emotion he is portraying to the audience, and if it is possible, is it desirable? Suppose a death scene is being enacted upon the stage. An actor must express great sorrow and bitter grief. Would he really feel all of this emotion? Certainly not, because if he did he would quite possibly break down, lose control of his voice, forget his lines and ruin the whole scene.

On the other hand, if he does not feel any of the emotion he is expressing, he is apt to be superficial, stilted and mechanical. Actors with many years of experience, and great ability may find it possible to portray an emotion sincerely without feeling any part of it, because their technique is near perfection. Amateur actors, however, as well as the great majority of professionals, do not have the experience and the great control of acting technique that the Booths, the Bern-

With the more technical details of the performance mastered, then comes by far the most enjoyable phase of rehearsing when the actor is free to throw himself into his part. This Mr. Knapp discusses as "Rehearsing for Sincerity."

hardtts and the Arlisses have, and necessarily must feel part of the emotion portrayed to avoid artificiality.

A common sense answer to this question might be: "Feel enough of the emotion to be sincere, but never so much as to lose control of mind, voice or body."

### 2. Should the actor retain his own personality, or submerge it into the character he is portraying?

A great many professional actors retain their own personality in every part that they play and might be referred to as "personality" actors. Will Rogers and Maurice Chevalier are examples. These actors act, it's true, but always as themselves. They do not pretend to be anyone else. They portray emotion and go through action to tell a story, but it is always Will Rogers and Maurice Chevalier whom you see. The great majority of motion picture stars are "personality" actors.

On the other hand, there is the character actor who first becomes another person, and then in this other form expresses emotion and goes through action to tell a story. He creates a different character for every part that he plays, submerging his own personality in this other being that he creates. The late Lon Chaney might be referred to as an almost perfect example of this type of actor.

Which type of acting, then, is of greatest value to the amateur actor, "personality" or "character"?

## "Personality" or "Character"?

The professional has an advantage over the amateur. His audience doesn't know him personally. The amateur actor, however, is performing before his friends and neighbors. They don't

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# Be Your Own Silversmith!

By VIRGINIA R. BRITTON

Richmond, Virginia

**A**RE YOU wondering what kind of handicraft you can do that is different and not expensive? Something that can be done in a minimum of space and with as few costly tools as possible? Did you ever think of making silver bracelets? Let me tell you of our experiences making them at camp and at William and Mary College.

All the equipment necessary is a pair of tin snips, a medium file and some Brillo (not the soap), all of which you can purchase in the ten cent store; a two ounce ball peen hammer that may be gotten from a hardware store, and a wooden mallet—the same one that you have been using for your leather work. A heavy wooden board is useful—one of your leather punching boards—but an anvil, a cedar post or any hard, firm surface except cement, which will scratch, will answer. At camp we found the tops of the cedar posts around the dining hall porch to be excellent. If you plan to etch your silver you will need an ounce of nitric acid, either concentrated or diluted, depending upon whether you want your etching to appear beaten

or smooth, a medicine dropper, an ordinary candle and some matches. The silver that we have found most economical is German silver one inch wide by 22 B and S gauge, which comes in a long strip by the pound, about 11 feet to the pound.

To make a bracelet for the average adult, cut off a piece 6 inches long, round the ends with your snips and file them perfectly smooth, being careful to file just the edges and not scratch the bracelet. Take a piece of Brillo

and polish your piece of silver, rubbing back and forth the length of the piece. Be careful to polish always in the same direction or you will find your bracelet scratched. Do this on both sides. If you wish a plain bracelet, take your wooden mallet and holding your strip against something round—the leg of a chair will do nicely—bend it to fit your arm.

Perhaps, though, you would prefer a hammered bracelet. If so, after you have polished your strip and before it is shaped, take your ball peen hammer and, placing your strip on the punching board or whatever you have found to use, hammer it with firm, even strokes that are not too hard. As you progress the hammered part will curl up slightly. Merely turn your silver over, and with the broad, flat end of your hammer hammer it flat, then turn it over and proceed. Now bend it, and your bracelet is finished.

Suppose, however, that you would like an etched bracelet. That, too, is easy to make. After you have rounded the ends of your strip and before it is polished, drip wax on the part of it upon

which you wish your design and draw the design right on the wax, removing the wax where you wish the silver to be etched. (By removing the wax from the design it will be lowered, while by removing the wax from around the design it is raised since the silver exposed to acid is eaten away.) With your medicine dropper drop the acid on the silver of the design and when the reaction stops, that is, when it stops smoking and bubbling, put it in soapy water to

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The three stages in the making of a silver bracelet by girls of Houston



# Waging War on Juvenile Delinquency

By KARL G. JOHANBOEKE

Division of Recreation, Department of Public Welfare  
Louisville, Kentucky

**I**N THE EYES of the taxpayer one of the justifications for the expenditure of tax funds for municipal recreation is the fact that playground and community center programs tend to reduce the number of juvenile delinquents in a community.

The Division of Recreation of Louisville, Kentucky, by setting up a juvenile delinquency prevention program, has made a definite effort to interest in recreation activities the potential juvenile offenders of the city. The securing of interest and participation has been the first objective. A decided advantage in the program is that through it it is possible to demonstrate to interested taxpayers the relation of the recreation department to the reduction of delinquency by bringing into the program boys and girls who are problem children.

## How We Went About It

The task of getting information regarding all the problem children of the city and even of discovering just who these children were was entirely too large for the recreation department alone. Consequently an effort was made to draw upon all community resources. A questionnaire was

made out asking for information relative to the child's sex and age, his grade in school, his address, the home situation, and his type of behavior problem. Then in order to provide ourselves with working tools, information was requested regarding the child's leisure-time interests, whether he was interested in athletics of the team game or individual type, in hikes, parties, handcraft, music, dramatics, marionettes, movies and other activities. A space was left for any additional leisure-time interests not specified.

Through the Board of Education these questionnaires were placed in the hands of the home room teachers of each school in the system which had children residing within the so-called "effective radius" of one-half mile of each of our play-

grounds. In some instances the principals of the schools were rather hesitant about asking their teachers to undertake the work involved, but when they were assured that the information was to be used for practical purposes they were glad to cooperate.

The weapons used in the fight were activities covering many varied interests.



Next we made contacts with the Family Service Organization, the Children's Agency and the Jewish Welfare Association. These organizations sent us information on the behavior problem children with whom they were in touch through their work, together with information on other children not actually behavior problems who they felt would be helped by taking part in the activities conducted by our department. These agencies also agreed to have their social workers meet the director of each playground and give him the complete picture of every child's background in order that he might do a more effective piece of work with these children.

From the Juvenile Court we obtained similar information about children who had come to their attention and who were on probation. In these instances, too, Juvenile Court officers promised to confer with the playground directors. Our next contact was with the director of the Rehabilitation Department of Ormsby Village, the corrective institution for children of Jefferson County. This department has to do with the paroling of children and their placement in homes in the community. It is interesting to note that one of the first questions asked by Ormsby Village on the questionnaire provided homes taking paroled children was: "How far is your residence from a municipal playground?" This is significant as showing the value placed on recreation as a force in adjustment to community life. It was arranged for the workers from the Rehabilitation Department to cooperate with the recreation leaders from the Division of Recreation just as workers from other community organizations had agreed to do.

When the information from the Board of Education and the other agencies came into the office the case records were filed according to playground communities. Before the opening of the summer playground program the case records for each playground were put in the hands of the recreation workers and it became their responsibility to interest these children in their playground and draw them into the program.

Los Angeles County, California, is increasing playgrounds in its fight against juvenile delinquency. The July-August issue of the *Juvenile Research Bulletin* published by the Juvenile Research Committee of the Los Angeles County Coordinating Councils reports that from July 5th to August 25th a total of 2,095 workers paid by relief funds were assigned to recreation projects in the county. Of this number 1,388 were assigned to work on playgrounds, and 182 playgrounds were opened which otherwise would have been closed all summer. Sixty-three new play centers were developed by relief workers.

It was recognized from the beginning that irreparable damage might be done if these children were aware of the fact that they were being considered as special cases. To avoid this it was arranged that none of the case records could be taken from the office. The workers studied them at headquarters and were allowed to take with them to

the playground merely the information on name, age, sex and address of the problem children within the effective radius of that playground. Playground leaders were instructed to try to make contact with the children through the invitation of another child living near them who was already a participant in the program.

In some instances case workers from the various agencies came to the recreation office to talk about children in whom they were interested and arrangements were made for these workers to take groups of children to the playground for a picnic on League Playground Ball Day. While they were there they would casually introduce the children to the playground leader who would tell them of the activities provided and secure their promise to participate in those in which they were interested.

Because of unemployment problems the case workers of the various social agencies were so overloaded with work that they did not have time to cooperate with us to the extent desirable to them and to us. They did, however, accomplish a great deal. A most valuable by-product of the experiment was the splendid feeling of cooperation between all the organizations in the community working with behavior problem children and under-privileged children.

There were, of course, certain weaknesses in the program. Let us take, for example, the case of a behavior problem boy referred to us through the invitation of another boy, a regular attendant at the playground. This boy's chief leisure-time interest, we found out, was baseball and his real reason in coming was to join a baseball team. If there were no incentive for him to sample other playground activities he might come to the playground only three afternoons a week, twice for



practice and again for the regular game. Because of this it seemed necessary to set up some type of program in which the boy would sample all the activities open to him on the playground.

With this in mind, we went to the Junior Board of Trade and interested them in sponsoring a boys' club on the Louisville playgrounds. The set up of the club's organization and its program was as follows:

Efficiency tests were devised in all playground activities; these tests were then arranged so that they would be given each Friday afternoon during the entire playground season. The first test took place on June 30th; the last test was completed Friday, August 25th. To explain just how the program was conducted we present a page from our Playground Staff Guide relative to the Junior Board Boys' Club.

*"Summer Club Program for Boys 10 - 15.*

"In order to join this club and to get his club button, the boy must sign up with the instructor and qualify in the first test. In order to remain in good standing and to be eligible for the picnic at the end of the season, he must pass all the qualifications and wear his club button all season.

"A list of the boys' names, addresses and ages, qualifying in the first test must be made in duplicate. Keep one copy for your reference and bring the other to Karl Johanneke to the staff meeting Saturday, July 1.

San Francisco is doing much by providing play facilities and leaders to combat delinquency.

"Check off each event as the boy qualifies on the back of his playground registration card. Also keep this record on the club registration sheets.

"In the event of a boy's not being able to take his test at the regular time due to sickness, absence from town or any other excuse deemed acceptable by the instructor, he can make up his test at any time convenient to the instructor before the day of the next test. This will not hold true, however, concerning the last test on the program. All qualifications must have been passed by 9:00 P. M. Friday, August 11, in order to permit the boy to go on the picnic during the week ending August 26.

*"I. Volley Ball Efficiency Test*

a. Serving—1 trial consisting of 5 attempts. Three out of 5 attempts must be legal serves.

b. Team play—Must play at least one game of volley ball under the supervision of playground instructor or competent monitor appointed by instructor and judged to be acceptable in team play.

Use standard court and net height for midgets and standard junior requirements for juniors.

*"II. Horseshoe Efficiency Test.* Use standard horseshoe court, 5 trials allowed, 4 shoes to each trial, one trial must be successful in keeping all 4 shoes in box.



### "III. Playground Ball Efficiency Test.

a. Pegging—Peg from catcher's position to second base—5 trials, 2 must be success, i.e., second baseman must not have to take both feet off base to catch ball.

b. Fielding—(1) Must field 2 out of 5 flies landing in circle 20 yards in diameter, circle to be placed 20 yards from base line, ball batted or thrown from home plate. (2) Must catch and throw to first baseman 2 out of 5 possible ground balls hit to left short stop position. Peg to first base must be acceptable in the opinion of instructor or monitor appointed by him.

c. Batting—Must hit one of first 3 strikes pitched to him (use same pitcher for testing all boys. Have him pitch moderate speed.)

d. Base Running—Time to be set by test group of 50 boys between ages of 10-15. Test on playground ball rules (test sheet will be given to playground instructor on weekly meeting preceding the week of the test.)

### "IV. Ring Tennis.

a. Three out of 5 serves must be successes.

b. Must return 3 out of 5 serves.

"V. Handcraft. Boys must exhibit at least one completed and acceptable handcraft project at the regular playground handcraft exhibit. Project must, of course, have been made at the playground.

"VI. Radio Track and Field Meet. Every boy to be a member of the club and to be eligible for the picnic at the end of the season must have participated in the tryouts for the radio track and field meet.

"VII. Sportsmanship. The boys must be acceptable in sportsmanship and playground citizenship in the opinion of the instructor during the entire playground season."

These tests it will be seen were not designed to pick out the experts in each activity. The point was to make the test difficult enough to require some practice and yet sufficiently easy so that any boy between the ages of 10 and 15 could pass them if he were interested to put forth the effort. It will be necessary for us to revise some of the tests next year as they seemed rather too easy for the majority of the boys. Allowance was made for any boy in the club who had a physical handicap and the test was modified to meet his capabilities.

### Drawing the Boy Into the Program

Let us return for a moment to the boy coming to the playground because of his interest in playing on the ball team. While practicing there one afternoon he will notice the large celluloid Junior Board Boys' Club buttons worn by his team mates. He will ask what it is all about, and he will be told. When he discovers that all the boys in the club who pass all their tests are going to a picnic and field day at the end of the season he will in all probability decide that he does not wish to be left out. Thereupon he will go to the instructor and sign up for the boys' club. This will necessitate his going to the playground not only three afternoons for playground ball but one afternoon to practice for his weekly test and on Friday afternoon to take the test. This means that the boy will attend the playground regularly five afternoons where he was previously coming only two or three.

This boy may have considered volley ball a "sissy" game. In order to qualify for the boys' club picnic he must pass all the tests, and to pass his volley ball test it will be necessary for him to play at least one game of volley ball under the leadership of the playground leader. In all probability he will discover that volley ball is a pretty good game requiring as much skill, although of a different sort, as playground ball. As a result, the boy may start attending the playground several nights a week in order to make the volley ball team for his age group. This same boy in passing his tests in other activities may become sufficiently interested in them to become a regular participant. At least he has the opportunity of sampling them. We realize that the necessity for a similar program for girls is just as great, and next year an attempt will be made to interest some women's civic organization in sponsoring a program for girls.

Of more than 700 boys enrolled, 596 completed the tests at a per capita cost to the Junior Board of Trade for the entire season of four-tenths of a cent. The expenditures of the Junior Board of Trade consisted of payment for a thousand large celluloid club buttons and candy prizes for the picnic at the end of the season.

It is evident that if a boy is busy participating in playground activities during the hours of two to nine o'clock five days a week, he cannot at the same time be on the street engaged in something

(Continued on page 397)

## From Dumping Ground to Recreation Center

**T**HE CITY OF DIXON, Illinois, furnishes an example of what can be done by reclaiming an undesirable tract and creating from it a picturesque recreation center. A few years ago, according to the *Park Board Review* of the Illinois Association of Park Districts, a beautiful high school building costing about \$700,000 was built on the shores of the Rock River on land which had been low river bottom land, much of it serving as a dumping ground. This had been done by pumping gravel from the river. It left the surrounding territory, however, in an undesirable condition.

**The result of the transformation--six acres of land ideal for many forms of recreation.**



*Courtesy Illinois Municipal League*



*Courtesy Illinois Municipal League*

**A park board creates beauty from an unsightly tract of swamp land.**

The land in question was inundated each spring by river waters during the flood season. Through the careful planning of the late O. C. Simons, a landscape architect of Chicago, in cooperation with the Park Board, plans were drawn to convert the property into a six acre playground and work was started in December, 1931. It was completed in November, 1932.

The tract now embraces a river frontage about four blocks long, ideal for picnics and other recreational activities. Included in the improvement are three standard asphalt tennis courts, numerous walks, an outer and inner asphalt drive and lagoon, all created out of a wilderness of trees and underbrush. The improvement was made at a remarkably low total cost of \$18,000, of which \$12,745 was assessed against the city as a public benefit, the remaining amount being assessed against private property owners and the Board of Education.

The park connects with other river front improvements recently made by the city and the Park Board. As a result of all the developments which have been made, Dixon is one of the outstanding Illinois cities in regard to the amount of park lands furnished the public. There is now an acre of park territory for every thirty-three residents.

What Dixon has done is not beyond the possibilities of many other communities of America, especially at a time when relief labor is almost universally available.



# Speedball— a Community Game

By HELEN M. BARTON

Director of Physical Education for Women  
State Teachers College  
Clarion, Pennsylvania

**D**OWN THE FIELD comes the forward line. The ball is theirs! The defense is instinctively tightening, every player picking an opponent to mark. It looks like a goal this time. They are going to kick! What a trap that left guard makes! The ball is lost, the attack breaks, a score is saved—for the present at least.

This is not an excerpt from one of Graham MacNamee's big game broadcasts; it is only a tense moment in a local tournament game of speedball. But it means much to those competing teams! There is no resounding applause from the side lines, no thumping of drums by a band to add to the noisy approval of the last play. There is only an appreciative grunt arising from the bleachers where are seated members of other tournament teams who have witnessed that last strategic block. Every bleacher-player has mentally mapped a course whereby such a similar occurrence will be foiled when his team is on the field. His grunt of approval of that left guard's defense means more than any burst of hollow applause. Such is the depth of interest in intramural or tournament speedball with all of its splendid chances for play rivalry.

Perhaps speedball is a game which is unfamiliar to your community, or the real joy of playing it has only been tasted. It is a sport which holds the interest of its players whether they be high school age boys or girls or college age men or women. There is no stagnation in development among its players, for the game is not one in which high school age players complete their training and then engage in the sport at college age with distinct boredom. The advanced combinations of hand and foot work in speedball are a challenge to the expert, but the elementary



A highly successful overhead dribble or juggle play by a center forward.

variations are not so complicated as to discourage the beginner. For the most part, it is true, the game has been almost entirely confined to the use of schools and colleges. This is unfortunate, however, for by such limitation community groups have been missing a most enjoyable form of recreation. Speedball is just as much fun for the community playground athletes, "Y" players or any other corresponding high school or college age groups, as it is in an intramural program.

For recreational use the expense of equipment is far from prohibitive. The necessities are a soccer or speedball, two sets of goal posts, made from wood or from gas pipe lengths, and a bag of lime for field markings. Individual players should have basketball or tennis shoes (preferably the former) and play may be in street clothes if desired. Of course, from the standpoint of comfort for the player and general freedom of movement, some sort of gymnasium uniform is far better than ordinary clothing. The inexpensiveness of the game, for the player or for the community, is a distinct advantage to both in these times of decreased recreational budgets. Field space, which according to regulation measurements is 100 yards by 50 yards, can be easily adapted to more confined areas. Such adjustment will in no way detract from the sport of the game, the style of play nor the interest of the players.

(Continued on page 397)

# World at Play

## A New Kind of Library

AT THE New York University Community Center, 244 Spring Street, New York City, a playthings lending library has been established known as the "toyery." The idea originated with Mrs. Ida Cash, a probation officer, who found that many of the children in her care were getting into trouble because they stole games and toys which all children naturally want. Interested people have donated games and toys of many kinds and these are being loaned out to children of families receiving city relief. The toys may be kept two weeks when they are returned and fumigated for the use of new borrowers.

## Cleveland's Playgrounds

CLEVELAND'S fifty-two school playgrounds were again in operation last summer following a storm of protest by Parent-Teacher Associations and other neighborhood groups to the Board of Education which had originally voted to keep the grounds closed this year.

## A Contest of Playground Artists

ONE of the most interesting features of the program conducted last summer by the Department of Parks, Playgrounds and Public Buildings of St. Paul, Minnesota, was the municipal playground artists' contest carried on in the park pavilions from July 9th to August 6th. Sixteen units were formed with a maximum of ten and a minimum of five individuals to a unit. Each unit was made up of musicians, dancers and similar artists and each had its master of ceremonies. Every contest for an afternoon performance was composed of four units, the judges making a decision on the presentation of the afternoon. At the close, when all of the units had been seen and heard, the final contest was presented,



Courtesy New Bedford Children's Aid Society

the best unit being selected as the winner. The contests were exceedingly popular and were witnessed by a total of 19,500 people.

## Recreation Costs

THE cost of all recreation services in Berkeley, California, including municipal playgrounds, parks and school playgrounds, totaled only \$105,000 last year, according to the annual report for 1932-1933 of the Recreation Department. The per capita cost for the service was \$1.22. The previous year it was \$1.29. With this drop it is interesting to note that the services rendered reached an increased attendance of 207,598. "Berkeleyans have stood by their children in this crisis," states the report. "Intelligence has overcome hysteria. Standards have been maintained. Dividends have been paid and will continue to be paid in the form of healthier, happier citizens."

## Garden Classes in Cleveland, Ohio

LAST summer the School of Education, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, conducted a garden class for thirty boys and girls who held their meetings in the schoolroom, in the garden and field. Children from the fourth grade up interested in the out-of-doors were eligible for membership. An experienced nature study teacher was in charge. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday the class met from 8:00 to 11:00 in a schoolroom. On Tuesday and Thursday afternoon the children were taken on hikes, and on other days they worked in their gardens. In case of rain the children enjoyed handwork and art. The fee for the six weeks' course was \$10.00.

## Developments in Toledo

UNDER the stress of increased demands for recreation by the unemployed, Toledo, Ohio, is expanding its recreation program. Under the 1933 budget it will have \$40,000 for the work as compared with \$32,000 a year ago.

**For Cleveland's Summer Program**—To raise money for three park entertainments this summer, the Mayor's Recreation Committee of Cleveland, Ohio, on May 23rd held a concert at Public Hall attended by nearly 7,000 people. The Cleveland Orchestra played and a Cleveland composer and pianist, William A. Becker, played one of his own compositions.

**Music in Ann Arbor**—Free instruction in playing band and orchestra instruments was provided last summer at Ann Arbor, Michigan, as a part of the program of the Vacation Recreation Association. A limited number of instruments were provided free of charge to the first applicants. Those taking the instruction gave a concert at the end of the season to demonstrate the results of the summer's work.

**An Evening of Old Word Dances and Songs**—On June 30th a number of nationality groups of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, under the auspices of the School Board, Extension Department, presented an evening of Old World dances and songs in honor of the American Home Economics Association which was meeting in the city. Ten nationalities took part in the program of dancing and music.

**The National Playing Fields Association**—The annual report of the National Playing Fields Association of Great Britain for the period from May 1, 1932 to April 30, 1933, states that during the year the number of playing fields or children's play centers receiving assistance from the association was 132. This increases to 1,090 the new playing fields known to have been provided since the national appeal of the association was made by H.R.H. the Duke of York in 1927. During this period nine playing fields were given to the association to hold in trust for public use. When the conveyances of all these sites have been completed the association will be the guardian of 48 grounds having a total area of 340¾ acres.

**Louisville's Costume Chest**—The Division of Recreation of Louisville, Kentucky, has a costume chest in which Indians, beetles, Pierrots and pirates live happily together. Over a thousand costumes of forty different types assembled from pageants and similar events are available for rental at a small fee sufficient to cover the cost of laundering and repairing the costumes.

## Give Pitching Shoes In Gaily Wrapped Christmas Packages

An ideal gift for followers of the game. Attractive, colorful (will brighten anyone's Christmas tree), and of course Diamond Official Pitching Horseshoes are the choice of professionals and amateurs the country over. Drop forged from heat treated steel. Accurately balanced for perfect pitching. They will not chip or break.



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**A Large Use of Play Centers**—Information reaching the Association from a number of cities points to a greatly increased use of recreation facilities during the past summer. The Recreation Department of Salt Lake City, Utah, reached approximately 5,000 people on Friday nights at the Nibley Park Water Theater and 3,000 people at the Tuesday night entertainments at Liberty Park. In Pasadena, California, 10,000 people a week attended the Thursday and Sunday evening entertainments at the Gold Bowl and the Friday and Saturday community dances at the civic auditorium. About 800 homeless men attended the weekly entertainments arranged for them in Seattle, Washington, in addition to thousands who were reached at the regular centers provided by the Park Department and other agencies.

**Where Volunteers Served**—Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, last winter with approximately fifty volunteers conducted a ten weeks' program of outdoor winter activities for youth and adults. There was an aggregate attendance of approximately 118,000 people. The recreation committee of the Chamber of Commerce sponsored the





program; the Park Board provided tools and equipment to prepare skating rinks and other construction work, and the local civic clubs provided the trophies. The main activities were skating, coasting, hockey and polo. Water, lights, coal and supplies, together with the part time salary of the recreation director, involved an expenditure of \$562. The supervisors at the skating rink received lodging and food, their pay coming from the Welfare Department.

**In a Small Community of Seven Hundred**—While the population of San Clemente, California, is normally only approximately 700 people, there are recreational facilities totaling in value several million dollars. Among them are a golf club, valued at \$600,000; a municipal pier, \$55,000; a municipal social club, \$110,000, and a plunge and beach club, \$95,000. The city plaza is valued at \$30,000, while the assessed valuation of the beach is \$300,000. In addition, the city maintains 35 miles of bridle paths and two splendidly lighted tennis courts. Many of these facilities have been given by private citizens, the social club being a gift to the city from Ole C. Hanson

who was responsible for founding the community. It may be used by any group in the city. There is no charge for any of the facilities.

**The White House Pool**—The idea of giving a pool to President Roosevelt through popular subscription was conceived early in March by one of the newspapers of New York City. In a few days the campaign was in full swing and not only did subscriptions pour in but offers of equipment were made by manufacturers throughout the country. The swimming pool, completed in June, is 50' long and 15' wide with a depth ranging from 4' to 8'. Colonial fanlights line the side walls, affording light and ventilation to the pool which is located in the corridor in the west terrace connecting the White House with the executive offices. A special effort was made to secure a decorative effect complementary to the iridescent, refreshing appearance of water out-of-doors. Finally a glazed terra cotta was selected for the pool lining for the surrounding wainscot in the room and for the walls for the rest rooms and showers. Many combinations of colors were developed in terra cotta and fired in the kilns. The result was the creation of three new high fire colors which, in addition to bluish green and royal blue, give an aquamarine effect of great beauty.

**Community Center Activities in Cleveland**—The report of the Cleveland, Ohio, Community Centers 1932-33 shows a reduction in the per capita cost from .053 in 1931-32 to .029 in 1932-33. Five fewer buildings were open in 1932-33 than in the previous year and the season was too weeks shorter; nevertheless there was an increase in attendance of 58,147.

Because of the inability of many people to pay the regular fees charged for some of the activities, they were allowed to participate without charge in music, dramatics, cards, checkers, ping pong, boxing, wrestling and other activities which did not require the services of an instructor. In the second term weekly entertainments were given free of charge in all of the centers, special invitations being distributed through the various branches of the Associated Charities to families under its care.

**A New Little Theatre Group Organized**—Cleveland Heights, Ohio, is to have its own Little Theatre group to be known as the Civic Theatre of Allied Arts. The Division of Public Recrea-

tion is sponsoring the project which bids fair to become one of the outstanding leisure time activities of the community. The first meeting in September was attended by seventy-seven people, the majority of whom had majored in dramatics in their college career and most of whom were out of employment. A three act play was cast, but the group was so enthusiastic that it soon became necessary to cast three or four one-act plays putting them under student leadership. Plays will be given for the most part in the beautifully equipped auditorium of the Cleveland Heights High School.

The Civic Theatre has outlined the following objectives: To provide dramatic activity for any interested person in the community; to offer competitive scholarships in the arts; the sponsor and encourage local play reading; to produce as many new plays as possible; to encourage professional producers to bring the better plays, educational and artistic, to the community; to encourage and sponsor art exhibits and musicals; to offer the community artistic and cultural recreation at a minimum charge; to provide a workshop for students of the theatre; to make all productions artistic and worth while, and to help preserve the theatre for its cultural value as a national institution.

**A Unique Exhibit**—The Westchester County Center last summer housed an interesting exhibit when a zoo of miniature animals was introduced through the cooperation of Louis Jonas, well known animal sculptor. The exhibit, showing groups of animal life from the wilds of darkest Africa to the plains of North America, was especially designed to supplement the child's education presenting authentic reproductions of living animals accurately modeled and scaled. Animals were reproduced in such materials as white metal, wax, composition and terra cotta frequently posed against topographical settings. The exhibit was presented under the auspices of the Westchester Workshop and the Westchester Arts and Crafts Guild.

**A Parent-Teacher Association Group Provides a Play Center**—A Parent-Teacher Association of Monroe, Louisiana, has had a large part in starting and operating a local school recreation center. The group first sent out a questionnaire to the people in the neighborhood of the center which resulted in requests for the following ac-

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tivities in the order listed: dramatics, quilting, singing, quiet games. The city furnishes lights, the Board of Education the meeting place, and the Parent-Teacher Association the leadership.

**Juvenile Delinquency Prevention**—A total of 154 workers are now supplementing the regular directors at the Los Angeles, California, municipal playgrounds in an effort to decrease juvenile delinquency through recreational activities. The additional workers were supplied to the city by the county from Reconstruction Finance funds. These workers are following the plan of making contacts with children who are regarded as problems from the social service point of view, persuading them to come to the municipal playgrounds where they are organized in recreational groups and activities.

**Activities in Peabody, Massachusetts**—The City of Peabody, Massachusetts, with a population of 22,000, is one of the communities which has so planned its work relief program that the city has benefited greatly in beautification and facilities for recreation. Three large playgrounds are the result. Each contains a baseball diamond and backstop. Scientifically built tennis courts and a cement wading pool form a part of the equipment of the city's main park. A solid cement bandstand with tile roof adorns the center. Comfort stations, showers and bubblers have been installed, as well as lunch tables and cement back benches to seat thousands of people. The work was done by unemployed men under the leadership of a competent engineer who donated his services. All material was furnished by the city. The funds necessary for the work were raised by a citizens' committee.

**New Playgrounds in Charleston**—Through the use of R. F. C. funds, Charleston, South Carolina, opened three new playgrounds under leadership this year. In addition to the regular staff of director of recreation and fourteen playground workers, there were six recreation workers paid from relief funds.

**The National Education Association Adopts Its Platform**—The National Education Association in its platform adopted by the representative assembly at Atlantic City, New Jersey, July 1, 1932, included the following "planks" relating to the leisure time field:

**Labor.** No child should engage in premature or excessive employment that deprives him of the

benefits of comradeship or play and of education.

**Curriculum.** The educational program should take into account the interests, needs and abilities of individuals. It should prepare pupils for cultural, vocational, recreational and civic responsibilities.

**Adult Education.** Opportunities should be provided for adults in every state to enrich the cultural aspects of life, to prepare for parenthood, to develop personal talents, to improve or to re-educate vocational abilities, to remedy deficiencies in education, and to learn the responsibilities of social life.

Among the resolutions for 1932 passed at the meeting was one condemning a number of practices, among them the following:

Eliminating health, recreational, vocational and cultural services and activities. This destruction of the essentials of modern education means returning to a narrow, lockstep, uninspired and inefficient program of education.

**Brooklyn's Baby Show**—More than 3,000 Brooklyn children from a few months to six years of age walked or rode in baby carriages at the eighteenth annual Park Department baby parade held on June 3rd. It was estimated that 20,000 people watched the parade.

## New Jersey Produces

(Continued from page 365)

Massachusetts. The work is done in closest cooperation with the National Recreation Association, and the District Representative spends an hour each Saturday morning in conference with the Emergency Relief Administration on the development of the work. While no specific fund is set aside by the State Relief Administration the assurance has been given that leadership will be provided wherever it is needed during this coming winter.

The whole project has been a very definite contribution to the recreational needs of the state. In addition to building up the morale of the people participating it has been a great source of encouragement and strength to local Recreation Departments and authority.

## Reducing the Recreation Budget

(Continued from page 369)

for public provision and the use of public provision are greater than ever before, be made with



great care and discrimination. There is a principle of democracy involved, too. In the field of education, in some communities more days and years of schooling are required than in others; but we recognize public responsibility to provide education for all. We have not attained this result in recreation: we recognize the need and we assume the public responsibility, but only partially and inadequately, and therefore unfairly. The White House Conference on Child Health and Protection estimated that at the maximum the present playgrounds can serve only about 5,000,000 children and that there are 27,000,000 more, of school age, for whom playground service, which should be available, does not exist. To suggest further cuts or eliminations in recreation budgets is therefore like suggesting a further amputation for a one-legged man.

While there needs to be in public recreation budgets as in all other budgets careful scrutiny, the elimination of all waste, extravagance, and duplication, and while the recreation budgets should bear and have borne their fair share in the necessary cuts to bring our expenditures within our income, it is not limitation and restriction but rather extension, to meet the normal need not yet adequately served, to accept democratically for all a responsibility now accepted only for a few, and to meet a special emergency need in these times of enforced leisure, that is the real demand.

### Home-Made Music

(Continued from page 373)

of good music sung and played at home, parents will have planted a life long interest for their children.

The spread of the practise of family "sings" and family musicales will be more stimulating than all the music instruction that parents can provide for their children. In fact, it would vitalize such instruction and make it functional in the everyday lives of the children. These family "sings" need not be confined to the immediate members of the family. Adult friends as well as friends of the children may participate. All too frequently children's attitudes toward music become warped as a result of the influence of their friends to whom music lessons have become a bane or to whom jazz has become a cult and who spread, by contagion, a harmful influence. If parents can draw their children's friends into the circle of happy music-makers, they may

## School Activities

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swing not only their own children, but also their friends to the side of the music-lovers.

Singing, while the best and most easily accessible avenue for home-made music, is not the only one. Instrumental ensembles—duets, trios, quartettes—and solo playing may constitute the core of many a delightful and well spent afternoon or evening. Here, too, the family can call upon friends to participate in the informal home musicale which may consist of singing and playing.

These musicales may be arranged at different occasions for the children and their friends only, for the adults and their friends only, or for adults and children together. The very knowledge that their parents are actively interested in making and enjoying good music will radiate a favorable influence on the children's attitude. They will feel that music is not merely an opportunity for the parents to assume the role of policeman in enforcing upon them an obligation to practise, but that music is a pleasure which parents share with them.

These musicales should be informal, happy opportunities for voluntary participation by all. Discussions about music, about composers, about great performers, about art in general, may grow out of them. Even folk dancing can be intro-

## How to Produce a Play

- Often it falls to the lot of one with little technical experience to direct a school, club or community play.
- The purpose of a handbook just issued by the National Recreation Association is to make this task easier and the results more certain. "Play Production Made Easy" by Mabel Foote Hobbs makes available a method of production tried and proved over and over again. It offers suggestions on scenery, lighting, costuming and make-up, and contains a number of pantomimes, skits and very short plays.

Price \$.50

NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION  
315 FOURTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

duced and participated in by everybody. The phonograph, the radio, the reproducing piano may be of help in illustrating some point raised in the discussion or in furnishing the music for folk dancing or in rounding out the program with an opportunity for listening to music played or sung by a great artist or by an ensemble of artists.

The extent of active interest in music manifested by parents will reflect itself in their children. There is nothing comparable to good home-made music for the development of interest, appreciation and good taste in the child. A musical atmosphere of active participation by the family in the making of music at home will be conducive to greater happiness and warmer sympathies between children and their parents. It will do more than anything else to make of us a truly musical nation.

## Recreation As a Preparation for Life

(Continued from page 374)

we are as advanced and are using the best methods and are doing the best kind of work that can be done for our children in this big city.

I do not think any of us could possibly not be

interested in work of this kind that is being done for our children. Of course, there are many other ways of spending leisure time, and many other ways that give recreation and which the children should be led to appreciate. I have been thinking how strange it is that many communities are willing to cut as much as they have their appropriations for libraries, because that is one of the opportunities for good use of leisure which should not be neglected in the children's education. I am distressed, at times, to find how little real appreciation there seems to be in many communities of the educational value a library should have for children.

## Contact With Nature

We are learning every year to appreciate more and more the outdoors for our children, and for the children who live in the cities it is more important than almost anything else, because they need to know how to really live in the country. What they learn in their parks and playgrounds is a preparation for the wider knowledge of the parks throughout their own states, which I hope, everyone will learn some day to appreciate, because we are developing such excellent State Park systems for the recreation of our people and for the health of our children. If we appreciate this necessity, and as the people learn to use these parks for holidays, so will we improve in health, and, I believe, in character. For the contact with nature is a great thing for young people and the interest which they acquire, and the many interests which can be developed in outdoor life, certainly should make it impossible for Satan to find work for idle hands to do.

I want to congratulate you on the work which has been done and wish you all success in your future efforts.

## More Time for Play

(Continued from page 375)

ance of his play. It is interesting to watch the play idea begin in the kindergarten, expand in the lower grades, take on some form in the middle grades, become team play in the upper ones and merge into work in the adolescent years. As a child plays he will work.

## Playground for Relief

By all means, then if money is so scarce that we cannot have enough teachers shorten the reci-

tation time, reduce the number of children before a teacher at any given time, use the playground for relief and keep the school going, the teacher in good health and spirits and the children growing well.

It is a mistake to cut out the playground. It takes care of more children at a time than any classroom. It requires less teaching, a smaller staff and less supervision than any other school activity, because the children want to be there, belong there and do well there. Expand the playground and you will help your struggling school.

### The Uses of Leisure

(Continued from page 377)

Books are the greatest inheritance of the new generations. They preserve the wisdom and the beauty of the race, and carry it as a living, ever-growing stream. No man can claim education who does not read constantly. Any one may educate himself—whether he has ever been to school and college or not—by wise and wide reading.

Happily the library movement is now so active in America that books are freely offered to anyone who will take a little trouble to get them. Libraries these days are not only storehouses of books. The modern library has many alert branches in cities and villages. Through loan collections to schools and churches and clubs and through book trucks roaming up and down the rural roads, the library today is pressing its wares on everyone as aggressively as a Fuller Brush salesman. No one in America has any excuse for not reading except his own laziness or his own stupidity. But those who would really enjoy and enrich their leisure will not be content simply to borrow their reading. They will want to own a part of this literary wealth. A book these days costs no more than a fat dinner. And happily both wisdom and brilliance are being made up into beautiful units of type and binding and format. In the new era mental food and emotional raiment are quite as vital as fodder and overcoats. In the rapid upswing of the market, books are commodities in which each of us with great profit may make investments.

Books are not only the only means of pleasure and enrichment. But they are the very basis of modern civilization. They are a food necessary to human growth. You can tell pretty well how far an individual is moving from the mule toward

the human being by the number of books he reads each month. Newspapers are necessary daily fodder, magazines are useful and stimulating, books are solid meat and joyous drink to anyone who is really human.

### When You Do Your Christmas Planning

(Continued from page 379)

the year is an appropriate occasion for consulting those resources that may be found in the psychology of the human spirit. It may be that understanding will be found which defies measurement yet which will enable the vision to penetrate into the twilight zones of the uncertainty of the future which are quite opaque to the trained statistical eye.

"The poets often possess a vision denied the scientists and are wise in unexpected ways. They know that the spirit of man follows cycles as truly as climate or economic conditions. The psychiatrists are today verifying what the artist has long known. They call it the cyclo-thymic temperament, which means in the words of the poet that the spirit of man walks today through the valley of the shadow of death but tomorrow it takes the wings of the morning and flies to the uttermost parts of the sea." — From *Benson Y. Landis*, Federal Council of Churches.

### How to Produce a Play

(Continued from page 380)

want to pay money to see him as himself, because they can see him on the street any day for nothing. They want to see the person he is supposed to be in this play.

Generally, then, the actor should sink himself in his part and become the character in the play. It isn't always easy to squeeze one's body into another person's body, one's mind into his mind, and one's soul into another's, but that is the essence of true acting.

The director conducting the rehearsals for character portrayal and emotional sincerity, plays upon the feelings of his actors, arouses them emotionally and helps them in their characterizations. The young lady who weeps in the second act feels enough sorrow to be sincere and avoids the artificial "boo-hoo" sometimes heard on our stages. The young man playing the old man grows old and feels old.



The amateur has one advantage over the professional. He usually gives only a few performances of one role. His emotional urges last through these performances. The professional must go through the same role night after night and is in danger of becoming "stale" or mechanical. The emotional urge which gives the first few performances their freshness and sincerity wears out. The professional must then fall back upon technique and experience to portray emotions which he no longer feels. The amateur actor is naturally what the professional is trying to be by means of technique.

### The Tempo of Playing

The emotion portrayed in the scene regulates the tempo or speed of playing. Usually a play has one major tempo running through it. A comedy is fast enough to be lively, but slow enough so that the audience gets the ideas expressed. A farce tears along at breakneck speed. There is no sense to a farce and the audience must not have time to find it out. A tragedy has a slower and heavier tempo.

To avoid monotony, then, there must be changes in tempo. These changes are usually due to emotional reactions.

For example, the family is gathered upon the stage and the family lawyer rushes in with the news that some one they've never heard of has just left them a million dollars. What's the tempo of the scene? Fast, of course. They shout, dance, and yell, and the whole scene snaps into speed. A little later, one of the characters is dying. The tempo changes. The actors talk and move more slowly and the entire scene slows down.

So the director checks up on the tempo, speeding up one scene, slowing down another, creating variety in tempo as well as sincerity in emotional expression. The actors also speak with different tempos; the old man slowly, the young man more rapidly, thus giving another form of variety.

The usual amateur play is too slow. An act which should play thirty minutes often plays forty, the reason being delay in picking up cues. A play is "speeded up" by talking slowly, and by picking up cues quickly. Each actor must talk slowly enough to be understood. He need not drawl or drag his words, but he must be understood. He counteracts this slowness of speech by starting the first word of each speech on the last

word of the preceding one. There should not be a pause between speeches without a definite reason.

Speeding up the tempo in this fashion improves the performance a hundred per cent. The jokes become funny, and the play takes on life and interest.

The play should be rehearsed for sincerity until the characters live, and not only the actors but the spectators feel the emotions that the characters in the play are feeling.

## Be Your Own Silversmith!

(Continued from page 381)

remove the acid and apply fresh acid. Continue this until your design is as deep as you like. Usually four or five applications of fresh acid are sufficient. Now heat your bracelet to remove the wax, wipe off wax and carbon, polish and shape.

Before we leave the subject of acid, let me caution you about it. Buy a small quantity of it at a time because it loses its strength with age after three or four weeks. Ask the druggist to give you a rubber stopper for it because the fumes from the concentrated acid particularly will eat a cork stopper in about a week. In using it in a medicine dropper, always keep it pointed down as the acid will gradually eat the rubber, and it may come off in your hands and burn you. If you are using acid with younger children take charge of it yourself. If, in spite of all of your precautions, you do get some acid on you, rub the place with soapy water or better still, with a piece of wet soap. This, being an alkali, will neutralize the acid and stop the burning.

A word about designs. Have them simple and well spaced. Initials are always good and they may be utilized as a monogram, in a row horizontally or vertically or put in on a slant. One of the most effective designs I have seen used on a bracelet was merely a crescent moon and a pine tree. We used very effectively illustrations from the Milne books, "When We Were Very Young" and "Now We Are Six." Or you can do something with Indian symbols either singly or by using several of them to tell a story.

All of the bracelets described have been an inch wide, but you can cut your strip in half lengthwise and have two bracelets for the price of one. For a hammered one this is often daintier. These bracelets are very inexpensive. When we made them at camp we paid 15 cents for a 6 inch

strip and that covered the cost of all necessary tools and equipment as well. Now that we have the tools we are making them for 10 cents, and don't forget that that will make two bracelets! Five cents for a silver bracelet that will stand wear and give you a great deal of pleasure! I have been asked if these German silver bracelets would tarnish. The best answer to that is that I've been wearing one for six months and it is as polished as it was the day I made it. The only difficulty that we have found with them is that in extremely hot weather they make your arm green, but that doesn't affect the appearance of your bracelet, and sterling silver may do the same thing.

When you would like to do something a little different in a short time, get some silver and try being your own silversmith!

## Waging War on Juvenile Delinquency

(Continued from page 385)

which will cause him to become a juvenile court problem.

As to the efficiency of the program from the point of view of numbers brought in, a percentage rating of the number of cases on which information was gathered at the beginning of the season who became regular playground attendants would not be a true criterion of the value of the program. For example, the playground situated in a more fortunate community would naturally not have as many cases referred to it as a playground situated in a high delinquency area. However, in the case of the playground in a delinquency area, because of the low economic status of the residents, a large number of cases referred to the playground naturally became regular participants because family trips, camps and other activities which would withdraw the child from the playground were an economic impossibility. On the other hand, many of the children of the more fortunate community were out of town or attending camp, with the result that a much smaller proportion of the cases referred actually became regular playground attendants.

At Highland Park Community Center, situated in one of the delinquency areas of the city, 68 per cent of the cases referred to us became regular playground attendants. In the two playgrounds having the second and third largest number of cases referred the percentage dropped down to 41

per cent in one case and 34 per cent in the other. To understand truly these situations, however, it is necessary to know that Highland Park has had comparatively few instances of families moving away from that community while in the case of the other two neighborhoods the population of the areas is largely transient. These factors and others too numerous to mention make impossible a comprehensive statistical study of the efficiency of the juvenile delinquency program. Moreover play leaders of the recreation staff are too busy with other duties, and the budget does not permit hiring additional help.

Our experiment is not the complete answer to the problem, but we do feel that such a preventive piece of work as we have initiated is a step in the right direction.

## Speedball—A Community Game

(Continued from page 387)

For those not acquainted with speedball, it may be advisable to include a brief description of the game, which may be said to involve the elements of basketball, soccer and field ball. It is suitable, as has been mentioned, for boys and girls and

## Read This Letter

"When I moved in as Director of Crystal Pool, Glen Echo Park, Maryland, right under my arm I carried your complete Reference Book — Notable Swimming Pools and Guide to Equipment and Supplies.

"This Guide has served me dozens of times already. It is, indeed, the Pool Bible.

"(Signed)

"CAPT. EDW. H. MCCRAHON."

NOTE: Before becoming Director of Glen Echo, Capt. McCrahon was for seven years manager of Spa Municipal Pool and Beach, St. Petersburg, Fla.

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## Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles  
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

### MAGAZINES

- The American City*, September, 1933.  
Park and Playground Development—A Present Opportunity, by Harry Tucker.  
Profitable Use of Present Opportunities for Park Improvement—Perth Amboy, N. J.
- The Survey Midmonthly*, August, 1933.  
A Community Learning How to Play, by Ruth A. Lerrigo.
- The Parents' Magazine*, October, 1933.  
Fun for the Stay-At-Home Child, by Maude Cushing Nash.
- Child Welfare*, October, 1933.  
What About Play? by J. W. Faust.
- The Rotarian*, October, 1933.  
Lawn Bowling—Rival of Golf, by Jim Spencer and Ken Bixby.  
Give a Boy a Hobby.
- Education*, September, 1933.  
Art As an Avocation, by E. Leigh Mudge.  
A Theatre for Children, by Charles R. Rounds.
- The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, September, 1933.  
The Contribution of Physical Education to Community Recreation, by Alfred O. Anderson.  
A Study of Touch Football Rules, by H. Harrison Clarke.  
Federal Aid for Leisure (editorial).  
Volunteer Recreation Leadership (editorial).
- Child Welfare*, September, 1933.  
Building a Child's Library, by Vera Winifred Schott.
- The Library Journal*, September, 1933.  
The Pattern of Leisure, by Ernest H. Wilkins.  
Leisure and the Library—Vocations, by Robert Hoppock.  
A Leisure Time College, by Harriet A. Harvey.  
Books for Unemployed Youth, by Julia Osborne.

### PAMPHLETS

- Annual Report for the Year 1932 — Municipal Council of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.*
- Toys That Teach*  
The Embossing Company, Albany, N. Y.
- Directory of Part-Time Educational Opportunities for Men and Women in Chicago*  
Adult Education Council of Chicago, 224 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. Free.
- Report of the Westchester County Park Commission 1933.*

also for adults, with proper rule adjustments for the varying age groups. The object of the game is to propel the ball by hand and foot methods through or over the opponent's goal line. In line-up and distribution of players, soccer technique prevails. The introduction of the basketball form of play, however, adds more interesting forms of handling the ball than is afforded by soccer where only footwork is permitted. The field ball idea of aerial passing is likewise a new feature, and in no American sport today will the community recreation leader find such a game of varying appeals to both beginner and expert player.

The fact that there are eleven members on a team, twenty-two players making up the two teams, creates a situation which will afford the coach many chances for socialization of community elements. This idea is the basis of any modern physical education program in schools and colleges, but there is no reason why the same principles should not be practiced with any team, whether it be composed of factory employees or varsity material. Educationalists have emphasized this idea that unity of work and play, which is the seed of all team work, has done much to foster common interest on the campus, whether it has been obtained through intramural or varsity means. Community interests will be found to be cemented more firmly by exactly the same procedure, the only difference being that perhaps in the beginning the elements are more diversified. Games which have been looked upon as leading to commendable results are basketball, soccer, volley ball, baseball, and in some localities, hockey. Speedball should be added to this list also.

From the viewpoint of equipment, space and players, speedball fulfills all needs of community groups as satisfactorily as it does those on educational institutions where it has been heretofore most frequently used. A more accurate description of the game for women and girls can be found in Neilson and Van Hagen's *Physical Education for the Elementary Grades*.<sup>\*</sup> Rules for men and boys may be obtained by writing to the American Sports Publishing Company, 45 Rose Street, New York. When the rules have been mastered by the coach and the play is started it will be noted that teams thoroughly enjoy the exhilaration of speedball.

Give your community the new thrill of playing speedball!

<sup>\*</sup> Published by A. S. Barnes & Co.



## New Books on Recreation

### Ventures in Informal Adult Education

By Thomas H. Nelson. Associated Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York. \$1.00.

IT IS THE purpose of this book to present a picture of typical informal adult education as carried on in Young Men's Christian Associations. It is primarily a collection of descriptions of program offerings—fifty-three are presented—showing how each was started and promoted, what topics were covered, who the leaders were and what educational methods were used. In his introduction Dr. George B. Cutten, President of Colgate University, points out that the material presented may be applied to various community groups. "I commend this study, therefore, not only to those interested in Young Men's Christian Association work but to all who are interested in solving the problem of leisure, which we must solve if our civilization is to be saved."

### Old Folk Dances From New Nations

By Edith M. Gates. Clayton F. Summy Co., New York. \$1.00.

ESTONIA, Latvia, Poland and Russia are the new nations evolving from the World War, a number of whose dances are presented here with illustrations, music and directions. These dances—there are twelve of them—are given because of the possibilities in them for social recreation among adult groups. They also have possibilities, Miss Gates points out in her preface, for school programs for junior and senior high schools and for college folk dance groups. Recreation leaders will find them practical and adaptable.

### How to Play Lawn Tennis

By J. Parmly Paret. American Lawn Tennis, Inc., 500 Fifth Avenue, New York. \$50.

EVERYTHING You Need to Know About the Game" is the subtitle of this book which contains chapters on instructions, official rules and tournament regulations and suggestions which will help in solving many doubtful points of play and procedure. There are full instructions for laying out grass and playing surfaces, as well as suggestions on the best methods of maintaining them afterward. The book is profusely illustrated with diagrams and with photographs of the most expert players making the strokes during actual play.

### Designs For Tooled Leather (Book I)

By Louise C. Hoefer, Glendale, California. \$1.00.

IN THIS COLLECTION Mrs. Hoefer offers a collection of designs of different sizes and shapes which may be applied to many leather articles just as they are or may be enlarged or adapted to other purposes. Some of the

motifs could be used for block printing, metal work, carving, enameling or other decorative work. This book is confined to the modern style. It will be followed soon with another group of twelve plates using the Renaissance and other conventional types of design for tooled leather.

### Zoological Parks, Aquariums and Botanical Gardens

By L. C. Everard. The American Association of Museums, New Series, Number 12, Washington, D. C. \$1.00.

IN ADDITION to such areas as the National Parks and Monuments, Primitive Areas and Research Areas of the National Forests, State Parks, and State and Federal bird and game refuges described in publications of the State and Federal governments, there are certain areas under the control of conservation organizations of various kinds which support many species of native plants and animals and may afford opportunities to the scientist and the student of nature. The American Association of Museums has brought together in pamphlet form information about some of these areas, including zoological parks, aquariums and botanical gardens.

### Sportplatzbau als Problem der Stadtplanung

By Dr. Ing. Arthur Manthey. Rudolph & Meister, Kassel, (Germany). \$1.84.

IN THIS VOLUME is to be found a discussion of the systematic planning of outdoor facilities for gymnastics, play and sports as a requirement of the times and the task of the city planner. The author points out it is the responsibility of the city planner to consider space for play and sport in the light of national needs. Only when the provisions of national legislation concerning the building of cities become a framework in which state legislation may operate will it be possible to solve the playground and athletic field problem through the working out of systematic plans. Every city planner of the younger generation must familiarize himself with legislation covering property condemnation, building ordinances and similar matters. He must know the real estate situation, the value of property, the possibility for the acquisition of public and private playgrounds, the conditions under which properties may be held, the functions of the individual types of play spaces and their dimensions. Coming generations of city planners must be inspired with the ideal which the German Committee for Physical Education has set up of "adequate, easily reached, efficient and beautiful recreation and play space for all."

**Social Planning and Adult Education**

By John W. Herring. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$1.25.

Chester County, Pennsylvania, a community of 129,258 people scattered over an area of 777 square miles, in 1928 undertook an unusual task combining the physical planning of town and region with the social and cultural planning of health, social service and the arts. This interesting experiment was made possible through grants from the Carnegie Corporation through the American Association for Adult Education. Recreation workers will be particularly interested in reading of the part played by the Recreation Commission in the general plan. Through the publication of this book a contribution has been made to the literature on community organization.

**Municipal Golf Courses in the United States (with Statistical Information)**

Public Links Section, United States Golf Association, New York.

At the time the Public Links Section was established in February, 1922, there were fewer than 100 municipally operated courses in the United States. In 1932, 213 cities and county park commissions reported a total of 329 courses. Information regarding these golf courses is given in the most recent edition of this pamphlet.

**The Youthful Offender**

By Harry M. Shulman. Sub-Commission on Causes New York State Crime Commission, Albany, New York. \$1.00 postpaid.

This statistical study of crime among the sixteen to twenty year age group in New York City involves a consideration of 3,498 individuals arrested for major charges. The factors taken into account included an analysis of the crimes and of the dispositions of felony cases, an examination of the various steps in criminal procedure as it affected this group, of technical procedures, of social background as related to the criminal records of young prisoners, and the mapping out of main crime areas in New York City, on the basis of residence of the adolescent age group of offenders, as a means of directing the focus of crime prevention programs.

**Exploring the Times**

American Library Association, 520 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Under the title *Exploring the Times*, the American Library Association has issued a series of reading courses dealing with world events. A few men close to public affairs were asked to outline for the general reader the broad sweep of events leading up to the present and to select a few outstanding books and pamphlets which help to explain the forces at work, the resulting issues and how they can be met. Five booklets are the result—*World Depression—World Recovery*, by Harry D. Gideonse; *Collapse or Cycle?* by Paul H. Douglas; *Living with Machines*, by William F. Ogburn; *Meeting the Farm Crisis*, by J. H. Kolb; *Less Government or More?* by Brownlow and Ascher. The booklets may be secured for 25 cents each; the entire set for \$1.00.

**The Great Technology**

By Harold Rugg. The John Day Company, New York. \$2.50.

It is significant that in this book which lays down the principles indispensable to a new synthesis of economic reconstruction and outlines a new social order in which the creative energies of man will be released, a chapter is devoted to "Leisure, Labor, and Art." In the new social order, as the author conceives it, all people will engage in creative, expressive activities. "Leisure will

be an actuality for all, but its enjoyment will not be through devices for escape. Indeed it will be a supplemental means of personal cultivation." Again the author says: "Our social order will be great, not because the twelve hour day becomes the four hour day but because work of any prolongation becomes a happy and creative experience."

**Colonel Stoopnagle and Budd's  
Are You a Sacred Cow?**

Published by Tilley and Sherman, New York. \$1.00.

Here are ingenious tests in the form of an entertaining game which will quickly determine how well your mental processes function!

**A Survey of Work For Boys in Brooklyn**

Welfare Council of New York City. \$2.00.

The seventh study made by the Research Bureau of the Welfare Council of New York City was a survey of work for boys in Brooklyn which would provide Brooklyn social agencies with information helpful in planning their programs of service. The purpose was to give the general "lay of the land" as regards the organized service to boys in the borough, to measure roughly the needs of neighborhoods for additional recreational and social service for children, and to learn something of what adolescent boys themselves think of their social-recreational affairs. The findings of the study, which are detailed and presented in an interesting manner, will commend themselves to all recreation workers.

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